Lilith

Healing the Wild

Tom Jacobs

Lilith
Healing The Wild

Tom Jacobs

By Tom Jacobs

Books

Living Myth: Exploring Archetypal Journeys
Seeing With Spiritual Eyes: A Memoir Of Intuitive Awakening
The Soul's Journey I: Astrology, Reincarnation, and Karma with a Medium and Channel
Saturn Returns: Thinking Astrologically
Chiron, 2012, and the Aquarian Age: The Key and How to Use It
Lilith: Healing the Wild

Channeled Material

Approaching Love
Understanding Loss and Death
Goddess Past, Present, and Future
Conscious Revolution: Tools for 2012 and Beyond
Djehuty Speaks

Natal Reports

The True Black Moon Lilith Natal Report
Living in the Present Tense: A Personal Astrological 2012 Prep Course

© 2008-2012 Tom Jacobs
ISBN 1456433016
EAN 978-1456433017

Cover image of the Burney Relief by Aiwok.
Used under the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.2.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

PREFACE

INTRODUCTION: WHERE WE'VE BEEN

T W , W , H P
W D ' W M E
H T W

MEET LILITH

T L M
T L A
A Return to Instinct
Aspects of the Lilith Archetype
Nine Stages of the Lilith Archetype
T L O E
The Dark Moon
The Asteroid Lilith (1181)
The Black Moon: Mean vs. True
The Story of Eve
L R R

LILITH IN THE HOUSES

LILITH IN THE SIGNS

NATAL ASPECTS TO LILITH

S
M
M
V
M
J
S
C
U
N
P
A -D
M -N
T N M

TRANSITS TO LILITH

J
S
C
U
N
P

THE TRUE BLACK MOON IN TRANSIT

M
S

PROGRESSIONS TO LILITH

S
M
M
V
M
A -D
M -N

LILITH IN RELATIONSHIP

L S
L C C

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Juan Antonio Revilla for his clear thinking about the Lilith archetype and for sticking to his guns in the face of many who argue that the osculating apogee cannot be used to understand Lilith in birth charts. Finding his work on Lilith was refreshing and informative but his clear and simple argument that the erratic nature of the energy of Lilith is precisely why the osculating apogee should be used opened a door through which I was able to develop clarity about and begin to trust my instincts that the true Black Moon Lilith is important to use over the mean position. I also thank him for his time and energy dialoguing with me over e-mail as I asked questions and sought to work out some of the ideas contained in this text.

Lovers, family members, and many clients over the last seven years brought me their Lilith stories, openly sharing their experiences and feelings about them. I am grateful to all of them for being willing to hear my telling of Lilith's story and re-envision and reimagine Lilith in the spirit of getting to the truth and recovering a sense of wholeness when it comes to the natural, inner, wild feminine. I consider all of them partners with me in the culture- and patriarchy-busting required by honest work with Lilith.

Preface

1

The human experience on Earth is at present shifting. You might have heard this spoken of in many different ways, perhaps as the idea that time on Earth has sped up. Or maybe you've heard that the end of the Mayan Calendar is drawing near and when it does, life on Earth will never be the same.

However we have heard of these shifts, our capacity to adapt to them rests on our ability and willingness to feel. It rests on our openness to experience emotion, our natural emotive faculties. Our heart centers (4th chakras) must be brought online as active participants in the roster of inner advisors any of us draws on to navigate the world. This calls for healing anything and everything that we carry in them as blocks, fears, and cautionary tales about the uses of the heart.

When we open our hearts consciously and with intention, whatever emotions we may be carrying in our bodies and fields have the opportunity to come to the surface. In some of us the imagery could be of removing the lid from a pressure cooker. In others it might be more of a slow rising of deep emotions from inner underground cellars. Whatever the speed and intensity, opening our hearts brings up old stuff and leaves us open to – brace yourself – *feeling*.

We of course feel all the time, and many of us do operate much of the time from our hearts. Yet the emotional stuff from the past that we carry (a.k.a. "baggage") is stored as energy in our bodies. It takes up room in our systems, and it informs and guides how we view and react to the people and situations of our lives. While many of us do access our hearts on a regular basis, when we do so in a reactive mode (reacting to what is around us in terms of the pain we are carrying in us, or absorbing the pain of others) we are less than healthy.

The shift in consciousness that we have been experiencing on Earth, connected with the end of the Mayan Calendar in October 2011, asks that we release the past and live in the present – completely and totally in the present moment. We're being invited to catch up to what's really going on right in front of us and stop replaying our old stories of what is probably going on or wishing intently for what we'd rather were going on. This is a time of great change on the planet and for all life on it. The stage of evolution that is about to end – both in terms of the evolution of individuals and the collective – is one of exploring duality, of believing in what I call the myth of separateness. Just one example is that as a collective we do not know how to live comfortably with the fact that men and women have within them both masculine and feminine energies. The general Western cultural view that we have been dealing with and trying to figure out to heal in real ways requires that individuals be clearly categorized into one category or another. This is duality, and it will in time belong to our past.

The variety of portioning out of masculine and feminine energy in heterosexual, homosexual, and bisexual humans, as an example, throws unexpected monkey wrenches into the patriarchal system's edict that men are to be men and women are to be women. And that's just in sexual identity and expression. This requirement that everything be one or the other, black or white, affects all arenas of our lives. It enables social cohesion yet individuals who differ from the norm are left trying to find a place to belong, and there are many of us who are not quite the norm. The

socially expected norm, in fact, is not the norm as far as humans actually experience themselves as energetic beings.

At the doorstep of the Aquarian Age, we find ourselves better able than ever in recorded history to connect with like-minded others and to create the families and communities that suit us and meet our needs. Technology to support these connections abounds, and many can take advantage of exploding their social contexts and, as a result, their worldviews. Those who create such community reflect a determination to honor and live from within a connection to their true natures. To learn and accept our identity as spiritual beings having human experiences is what's waiting for those who let themselves change with the energies on the Earth at present.

Those who are shifting now are coming to understand in what ways they are spiritual beings. They are learning to identify as spirit having human experiences over the sum of their experiences. To do this they are seeking emotional healing, and many are looking for the right ways to go about it. Working with the emotional issues represented by Lilith can bring light to some of our deepest shadows, both individually and collectively. Doing this opens the door for a reconnection to *ourselves-as-nature*, and *nature-as-us*, a healing we desperately need after thousands of years of waging and suffering through the patriarchal war on the feminine as nature, both within and outside us.

More and more people are becoming willing to identify as who they feel they are, and not as the judgments and labels of others, not as who they have told they are or should be. This is an exciting time during which many are waking up to and deepening into themselves. More of us are rediscovering ourselves as spirit more – and more quickly than ever. My feeling is that this end to our collective slumber will change the world for the better, and it is in part in that spirit that I offer this work.

Part of this shift to opening our hearts is what many are now calling a "return to the feminine." When we are willing to feel the world around us – instead of seeking to fashion it according to our desires – we return to the feminine. We honor it. Similarly, we also return to the feminine when we listen to our bodies for the foods that they require instead of deciding what we should be eating when and why. We return to the feminine when we gaze at each other during lovemaking, when we allow our bodies to decide what happens when and why when we create intimate space together. The feminine is all around us all the time – saturating us, even. The issue is not so much a return to the feminine as it is altering how we conceive of and open to experiencing it. It is, in other words, in our attitudes about the natural feminine and how it surrounds us.[1]

A few months ago someone e-mailed me after finding some of my work on Lilith and Lucifer online. The person very kindly offered me the reflection that it would be a good idea for me to heal the anger that is coming out in my work on these two archetypes. I was – you guessed it – angry that someone would tell me to, it seemed, get over it. I deleted the e-mail so as not to respond in anger, but I have not forgotten it.

I am in fact angry about the suppression of the wild feminine. I am angry at having witnessed it in various lives, and I am angry at having in various lives participated in it. I have memories now from my soul's other lives of standing by and not doing anything when a woman or women in general were being mistreated or in some way diminished or put down. In this life, even, my soul chose that I be born to a father who in some ways did not treat women with respect. My experience growing up around him was painful and I could not for the life of me figure out how I could be his son.

(And the look of pain and disapproval he saw in my eyes after a comment or joke of his made him wonder how I could be his son.) In my 38th year on the planet in this life, as of this writing I am finally able to understand why he was the right father for me, why his particular modeling of masculinity was critical to my soul's growth and my experience as this me. I can see the truth of why that dynamic and its inherent tension was a learning experience for me, and why it was valuable. I'm able now to have more compassion for those who are unclear about what it means to treat the feminine with respect.

I am also finally able to turn my anger at the suppression of the feminine into something positive. This is the other spirit in which I offer this work.

In all the ways that we carry anger from being suppressed or have anger rooted in pain from being or witnessing others being suppressed (or from having done it and feeling awful about it), we have to figure out how to turn that anger and the pain behind it into something constructive. It is no longer appropriate to live Lilith stories and allow them to end in anger and rage. It has never worked and it's not working now. Yet now we are more able than ever to release the blocks to the anger we feel and let it flow in directions that end up transforming it into love. *We have the choice to allow the anger to flow and transmute it into creativity.* Again, to do this we must be willing to feel all we can feel, to flow with all the emotions that we carry and learn to allow them to fuel us to proactive ends. The opposite is feeding the anger so it generates more anger and pain, and reacting angrily when we encounter anger. We are evolving beyond that limited conception as we learn that we must at all costs love ourselves for all of who and what we are.

Along the way we must open to choose to have compassion for those who seem to have suppressed us.[2] Compassion is the key to healing all anger, which is always rooted in pain. A great teaching surrounding the energy of Lilith that you will explore as you read this text is that others are not always prepared to deal with the wild, which is to say what cannot be controlled. Most people are taught from day one to fear what cannot be controlled. It is therefore our job as Lilith figures to learn to have compassion for this yet to proceed living our lives how we know we need to. As you will read in "Meet Lilith" below, the cultural line on Lilith is that if you are going to live one of her stories, it will end in pain. It is time to change that and evolve beyond this anger at the last 6,000 years of treatment of the feminine, and it is my sincere wish that this material land in your psyche and life to inspire you to do just that.

TDJ
June 2010
Tucson, AZ

2

A number of years ago I had an epiphanic moment that stopped me in my tracks. I had been thinking about what is up on planet Earth these days, considering the variety of imbalances we are living through and are faced with correcting. I saw clearly in my mind's eye: *If you want to heal the Earth, you have to heal women sexually*.

That insight lead to an exploration of the notion that our bodies are extensions of the Earth itself, and that our souls are essentially extensions of the Earth's, too. It also nudged me into gaining a bird's eye view on the cultures we have been living in for the last almost 6,000 years, since the advent of Judaism, the first patriarchal religion. In time I began to see that "healing women sexually" is about healing on multiple levels (and that it is only in part about literal women, and only in part about sex). There is the

obvious sort, which is what probably popped into your mind when you read that phrase (as it had mine). There is also healing waiting to unfold surrounding the feminine in general, the stance of receptivity to life and each other that we have been taught should be stamped out or left to teachers, nurses, wives, and mothers. The cultural approach developed and adhered to these last few thousand years has a specific agenda that does what it can to leave the realities of the feminine out, making anyone who embodies or loves the feminine in its natural state and in its natural forms an outsider, somehow foreign, somehow left behind the arc of material and manifest progress the culture holds as central to its evolution. The collective healing cannot unfold without individuals healing first, and the book you are holding aims to outline the bird's eye view I have gained on the present situation in the collective while offering tools to heal the individual.

Of all the topics in spirituality, metaphysics, astrology, and mythology that interest and inspire me, Lilith is closest to my heart. Every time I would hear from a friend, lover, or family member about a history of oppression, suppression, abuse, and domination of a woman – whether sexual or not, whether about them or someone they knew – I tapped into a sadness I seem to have been born with. I wanted very much to "be part of the solution" yet had absolutely no idea what that would look like. In time, once I began work as a counseling astrologer, I began to see in myself and others just how widespread is the imbalance in our lives that results in the need to develop an approach to Lilith as a healing work. My perspective on the issue began to broaden, as did my vocabulary and life experience.

I first got the idea of working with Lilith in astrological birth charts one day when I encountered what I call "the three Liliths warning." As I looked around at and combed through online astrology forums, I would sometimes come across mention of Lilith. Sometimes there was a bit of info on her as a demon and probably dangerous but mostly this sort of interaction: One person posts the question, "Hey, does anyone here use Lilith? What does she mean in my/a chart?" And someone else posts in response, "Hold up there! Be careful because there are three Liliths: The asteroid, the dark moon, and the black moon. You don't want to mix them up." I read that unsubstantial and unhelpful answer in various forms so often I decided to look into Lilith and see why a lack of information on her seemed so prevalent and when there was info, why it was so negative. Everything I encountered about her centered on her being the mother of all demons, and those who are familiar with my work know that that's enough to inspire me to focus on something and shine whatever light on it I can – I simply refuse to believe any archetype is inherently bad, demonic, or evil. Each archetype represents a portion of us – of the human consciousness – and there is nothing singularly good or bad about any part of us.

My research took me first to the women in my life. I started plugging Lilith in to their astrological birth charts and thinking about what I was reading and hearing about the mother of all demons in terms of my friends' and my family members' histories, experiences, demeanors, beliefs, and behaviors. I also discussed Lilith, the patriarchy, and the millennia-old war on the feminine with a number of friends, some of whom were holding the charts I was studying. In time I also began working as a channel with a being who is said in the Jewish tradition to be a child of Lilith, and gaining insight into his view of her. I joined that with my observations and interactions with clients and others in my life and that lead to the articulation of the true Black Moon Lilith natal report in early 2008. Since then Lilith has been a major focus in my

practice. I have drawn many people from around the globe who are ready to hear her story as I retell it and to begin healing the bruises in their relationship, sexual, and professional/social histories, and their willingness to treat themselves well and with loving kindness.

When I began working with Lilith, I was drawn to use the true Black Moon and not the mean position (more about this in the chapter "Meet Lilith"). It was an intuitive hit that was confirmed both by my spirit guides and the being I was channeling before I began working with it. Confirmation then continued over the last number of years by all the clients who have come into my sphere who needed to hear Lilith's story. Even before my understanding of her story and the cultural context and implications were fully clear in my mind, I was able to use portions of it to incredible effect with my clients. Retelling even just a bit of Lilith's story in the spirit of healing and empowerment can foster the healing process that has been on hold for many of us for all these lifetimes as we have explored living in patriarchal society. I began to see that working with this material and telling Lilith's story at every opportunity was how I could do something to be part of the solution. Essentially, I saw –and then proved – not just that healing is possible, but it is likely as we all seek to heal our relationship with the natural feminine both inside and in the world around us.

My own karmic journey features some strong Lilith themes and though I was eager to develop this work and get it out in book form, I saw that I would first need to work through my personal issues surrounding Lilith's themes in my life. The first stage of that was complete in May of 2008 when I wrote the Lilith natal report. The report puts Lilith in social and cultural context and includes the astrology of Lilith in a reader's astrological birth chart, and I am proud of that work. The report's sections on the astrology of Lilith have been included here (though somewhat edited) so that you might learn to use the true Black Moon in birth charts in this life-affirming, positive, healthy way. In the two and a half years since writing that report I have attempted numerous times to write introductory material that could precede it to complete this book. The result was an electronic graveyard of aborted writing attempts, the existence of which I *tried* to accept as fitting with perfect timing – I was ready for this material to get out and developing patience with the process as it needed to unfold was challenging.

This material is geared toward the imbalance we have experienced when it comes to the natural feminine. As you read this book you will no doubt be able to think of numerous examples of women and men you have known or are related to (or even you yourself) who have chosen to re-establish or maintain a healthy connection to Lilith – their own inner wild and that of others and the world. My description of things here might, in other words, seem all out of kilter given the people you know who get this and live and embody Lilith and her themes in wonderful ways. They do exist – they are, in fact, everywhere. I have focused the work on the negative manifestations in an effort to make these ideas and realities clear to the rest of us, so that we can see where and what levels much healing still needs to take place. Astrologers at our best are some form of counselors of spirit, and making this approach available to them so more of us can support each other in healing and loving the wild is important.

As of this writing, I have just returned from an evolutionary astrology workshop all about the Moon, a meeting of Steve Forrest's Apprenticeship Program in Southern California. While there I found Steve, others, and myself discussing at length the present (slow and cumbersome) dissolution of the patriarchy and the lasting effects

living with and through it for thousands of years have left on us. I found myself coming up with the words – and *in the right order* – to articulate the previously missing links in what I have been thinking and feeling about Lilith for all this time.

So, suddenly, the second stage feels complete. I suspect there will be more, but in the mean time, I offer this book with an invitation that you learn to make peace with and love, or continue to do so, the wild inside and wherever you might happen to find it living in your world.

T.D.J.
Tucson, AZ
November 9, 2010
3

Each of the above two efforts at a preface were written at times when I believed this book was near completion. I've included them here because they provide useful information. They are not edited together and streamlined because they represent markers in my process of opening to, understanding, and working with Lilith in myth and archetype and in how humans live her story.

I realize now that the process to open to healing Lilith within myself and to become able to work with others on their own had more layers than I could have anticipated. It turns out I also needed some help in the form of channeling a book from the Ascended Master Djehuty about the imbalance between masculine and feminine on the planet that is the defining characteristic of the patriarchy. I had much to say about this in earlier drafts of the first few chapters and all of it evidenced a struggle to wrap my mind around what had been happening culturally for several thousand years.

Channeling *Goddess Past, Present, and Future* provided me a succinct vocabulary with which to explain the patriarchy and when it seemed time to revisit this project, those sections came into form painlessly. After four years of trying to articulate what you are about to read, the book is now done and I have a deep sense of relief and gratitude that I can offer it to you.

The image on the cover is of the Burney Relief, a famous Babylonian representation of a goddess in the collection of the British Museum. Since the 1930s people have associated it with Lilith while allowing it could instead represent Ishtar or Ereshkigal. Today it is more accepted that it represents the goddess of love and war and this inspires me.

Living out the energy and stories of Lilith in our lives in fact reveals inner terrain on which love and war intermix. As you will read below, it can often be within committed relationship that we find and experience the struggle to be and honor ourselves as Lilith. But it is also true that conflict and difficult treatment from others that we sometimes receive as Lilith figures reflect the difficulty that humanity has had to come back into balance with the two kinds of energies – feminine and masculine.

The journey to acceptance and love when it comes to Lilith only seems to be taking place outside the self in our relationships of various kinds. It is in fact to be seen in the individual, internal process of coming to accept all aspects of the self. Treating oneself with respect and honoring the instinctive, animal nature humans still possess will heal Lilith in any individual. And it is that individual process that will lead to a collective reawakening, integration, and compassionate acceptance of all the wild feminine is and does both inside us and in the surrounding world.

While the image on the cover might be of the goddess of love and war and not Lilith, know that the truth about Lilith is not far removed from that face of the

Goddess. Also know that the struggle to accept and love ourselves can be ended through making peace with the existence of Lilith within us.

T.D.J.
Tucson, AZ
May 19, 2012

Introduction: Where We've Been

There is no shortage of analysis and criticism of the cultural context in which we find ourselves. Many roads of thought have for a few decades lead to the conclusion that we need to transition out of patriarchal ways of living and into ... something else.

Just what that is for most of us is, however, vague. We know we need to evolve as a collective. We are clear that our historical gender roles and social-cultural assignations of value on men and women need to change. Some have been fighting for as long as they can remember to change the status quo while others have been active on what they see as the front lines for just a few years or decades.

Our shared history in the modern Western world centers on the development and adherence to a form of civilization known as patriarchy. In this system there is an emphasis in all areas of life on the masculine side of things. At this stage I will define masculine and feminine in very specific ways while keeping the level of dialogue in a way vague – for now. Here it is: Masculine energy *does*. Feminine energy *is*.

On this level, we are in no way talking about gender, gender roles, sexual mores, or anything of the sort. I want to keep your focus for the moment on the basic difference between these two modes of being.

Feminine energy *is*. It seeks to experience itself and to know the world through itself. Feminine energy in its purest form is and unfolds; is just what it is. It is interested in, focused on, and concerned with being.

Masculine energy *does*. It seeks to be in action and to direct and shape self and what surrounds the self. Masculine energy in its purest form gives shape to feminine energy. It is interested in, focused on, and concerned with control and direction.

Nothing wrong with either of those, right? At least not until we begin viewing ourselves and the world through the lens of dualism. We have been doing this for as long as there have been humans. The evolution of life to this point has occurred through this lens: *I am me and you are you. I have enough food to survive and you don't. I have adapted to this difficult circumstance and will survive as a result and others – perhaps even you – will not.*

Through dualism we begin to identify with one position over another. We see others as different than ourselves and we take a position relative to theirs. For as long as this has been happening, we have been viewing each other as separate from ourselves. Right now on planet Earth we are all being invited to begin to emerge from dualism once and for all and to know in what ways we are connected and in what ways we are the same. Coming out of viewing gender and sex through this lens is a primary chapter of us heading into our next evolutionary step.

Whenever dualism is in play, masculine energy will dominate feminine energy or seek to. That's what it does. Feminine energy is focused on being and its masculine counterpart observes the feminine as out of control, wandering, unfocused, and unproductive, and aims to provide the feminine instruction, structure, discipline, and grounding. Feminine energy has a response to the direction-based impulse of the masculine one way or the other and then the masculine responds to that response ... and after a few more layers of that, we can see the history of human relationships spelled out in maddening, saddening, heart-rending detail.

Living through the lens of dualism, the masculine will always dominate the feminine or attempt to do so. We have been identified in important ways with the physical for a very long time, which can leave us believing that the truth of our

physical selves is the truth of our spiritual selves – i.e., that we are separate from each other. We are only just now beginning to be on the verge of coming into a new scheme of identification as humans, which is to say enlarging our definition of who we are that takes into account energy, which is spirit. Looking at the world through a dualistic lens and identifying as our bodies in important ways, it is no wonder masculine humans have dominated or sought to dominate feminine humans. It is the natural way it works when those two energies are approached through dualism.

We are living now through an unprecedented shift. As mentioned above, understanding more about ourselves as energetic and sexual beings is a major part of it. For many it is no longer sufficient to look at the other and maintain an idea that we are separate. Many people are coming out of believing that because men and women have different body parts and chemistries that we are in fact separate. But we are not yet sure how to bridge the gap of the model handed down to us by the culture creators over the last 6,000 years – since the advent of patriarchal ways of thinking – and the feeling (or inborn knowledge) we have that that model is inadequate. But we are getting there. I am routinely inspired by men and women who come to me in my practice with an issue of a sexual nature in their background they are ready to heal and who walk away with a deepened and deepening commitment to living into this paradigm shift with conscious awareness. We hunger for healthy relating to and expression of our sexuality. Many during this major shift in consciousness we are living through now are catching up on many lifetimes of imbalance in that arena.

When a client with issues in his or her sexual history comes to me, I often am drawn to tell him or her the story of Lilith in a particular way. You will read about it in great detail in the following pages, but know at the outset that this work grew out of my desire and passion to support myself and others in coming back into balance as regards sexuality and sexual expression after millennia of misleading information fed us by the culture creators over time. The healing results have been obvious in those with whom I've shared Lilith's stories over the years. Through the way of telling Lilith's story that you will find in this book, there is much peace to come through understanding, acceptance, and compassion in the face of ignorance and misunderstanding.

If I am drawn to explore a myth, you can bet that by the time I'm done I'm retelling the story. There is a gap between the myth that we are taught – which is instruction from the collective about how to behave and how not to behave – and the archetype as we live and experience it internally – the portion of our psyches that contains that story.[3] To date I've spent time working deeply with about three dozen mythological stories. The starkest contrast between myth and archetype I have come across is the story of Lilith as we have received it. There is an incredible focus in patriarchal culture on diminishing the feminine in all of its forms. It is aimed at controlling all aspects of the feminine for very specific reasons, as I'll get into below. It is especially true that the Hebrew culture shapers have been focused on this since day one, whereas once they had a good start, when Christianity came along the focus shifted to diminishing certain aspects of the masculine instead.[4]

The What, Why, and How of Patriarchy

Patriarchy was instituted for a simple reason. Given the complexities of our social reality and patriarchy's effects on us over time, the simplicity of the vision that lead to its generation can seem almost *too* simple, in fact. Our entire collective existence and our individual experience of life on Earth in most cultures for the last 6,000 years have been and are to some degree colored by this basic philosophical position:

Property should pass through male lines.

That's it – that's the root idea, the very core of the patriarchy.

In order to accomplish this, the culture shapers had to institute a handful of key rules and turn them into mores that members of the general populace could be trained to adopt and fear transgressing. I will explore each below, but for now here is the list:

1. A man must know without a doubt who his children are.
2. A woman's sexuality and her relationship with her body must be brought under the control of a man, men, or a masculine-based mindset.
3. The sexual life of a woman must be focused on procreation.

That root idea and these three rules are the foundation of how we have been living for the last 6,000 years. When I look at this objectively I am amazed at how a few simple ideas and rules can come to dominate the consciousness and therefore day-to-day reality of the majority of the human population. It is such a powerful example of creating culture through engendering fear.

As I write this, you might find yourself tempted to shake a fist in the air and curse those culture creators. I have two things to say in response. First, this system and its way of relating men to women and all beings to each other has been a necessary step in our evolution. It in many ways marks a critical stage in our progression along our collective evolutionary path. Living through the lens of patriarchal thinking has perfected – or brought into full bloom in the manifest world – the notion that masculine is better than feminine. We have learned through this that we need to be active in how our lives unfold, as being passive and waiting for our mother – the Earth – to bring us all we need (which is how it more or less was like before patriarchy breathed its first breaths) was a stage of human collective evolution that we needed to move beyond. Now we are faced with going from the extreme of activity and action-oriented behavior and philosophies to something more in the middle, working with natural law even as we are in action to create the kind of world in which we want to live.[5]

The patriarchy holds that productivity is important, clear thinking is good, and nature exists for our benefit. Each of these statements can be taken as a positive if we leave it at that. If productivity is more important than anything else, however, and if the only kind of clear thinking recognized is logical, left-brain, linear computation, and if nature exists for us not just to benefit through but to use for any purpose we see fit, then we can see how these simple ideas can become distorted. With those qualifications added it is easy to see how we have gotten ourselves where we are in the arenas of sexuality and reproduction, how we treat our bodies in general (including nutrition and healing/medicine), and how we treat the natural world and the Earth itself. I want it to be clear that the notion of patriarchy as a predominant mode for modeling how life should be lived is not evil in and of itself. It is the intentional

elevation of the masculine over the feminine that is the issue and that brings the pain, diminishment, violence, and heartache from which we desperately need to heal at this time. Elevating one form of energy over the other was, again, a learning experience for us as a species and therefore as individuals. Otherwise we would not have learned what it was like to create and live through such an imbalance, and we incarnate here to learn what it means to be human and make choices as well as deal with the consequences.

The second thing I want you to be clear on is that we just about all of us ate it up in at least one form and at least at some point along the Earth timeline. We have at various times in our multiple human lives (most of them) felt we needed to be told who we are and how to live. This is the function of myth: to teach us who we are how to behave, how to survive and succeed in the cultural context in which we find ourselves. All of us have at one time or another believed what we were told about men and women, sex, the purpose of life, and all the other things about which patriarchal religion and culture exist in order to teach us. In all times it is necessary that we teach our young how to behave and myth is how we do that. We have simply been teaching that one part of the story is the entire story even as we know on a deep level that there is something in it not quite right.

In the spirit of moving beyond the limited worldview we have learned and heading into a more realistic way of understanding and expressing ourselves, there is a tremendous amount of forgiveness that needs to take place. In living out the patriarchal attitudes toward gender and sex during the last almost six millennia, we have found ourselves on each side of the domination-submission dynamic. Even if we don't remember it in any given life, we have all been men and we have all been women in our souls' various lived all along the Earth timeline. Each of us has lived lives feeling dominant and powerful as well as lives where we feel utterly and absolutely stepped on, used, abused, overlooked, and/or disempowered. Given the nature of a soul's intention to learn about what it means to be energy (or spirit) living human lives in these physical vehicles,[6] it is natural that we learn about a life issue by, over time, finding ourselves on all sides of that issue. The soul counts all experiences fitting with its intended path as useful and, in fact, learns from shame, guilt, use, and abuse in ways just as important as equality, safety, security, and love. All of us alive on Earth have to date also intended at the soul level to learn about living through dualism, a mode unavailable to the Divine energy that all beings together make up when it is whole, complete unto itself and obviously undifferentiated. It simply is not possible to experience these things without being incarnated in bodies like these in a place like this.

> *We must forgive everything that has been done to us as a result of our (soul's) choice to live human lives through the lens of patriarchy. And we must forgive ourselves for all that we have done as a result of living through it. Forgiveness is not a word or concept that just might come in handy for you if you want to evolve at this time – it is absolutely imperative.*

Let's go back to the three rules of the patriarchy.

1.

A man must know who his children are.

The realities of human biology make this a given if patriarchy was to succeed. A woman can have multiple partners in a short period of time, making it difficult

to know whose child is fathered by whom. Older, Earth-based religions knew of this reality and trusted that the processes of nature would work for the benefit of the species. Those religious cultures were not necessarily matriarchal per se but the feminine – and the mystery that is part and parcel of living a life open to nature – was considered sacred.

If a man does not know who are his children, the project of the patriarchy is automatically a wash. Power cannot be controlled and manipulated through the hands of masculine forces and literal men if not.

2.

A woman's sexuality must be brought under the control of a man, men, or a masculine-based mindset.

In fact her relationship with her body in general must be brought under such control. The approach to her sexuality and body that is inspired by the Goddess – or the natural feminine as it exists within each woman – is dangerous to the culture shapers. There is a natural ebb and flow in all aspects of nature including within a woman's body. If she believes that she has a right to experience herself as an extension of nature, hearing and honoring the ebb and flow of nature, her availability to a man sexually would be less than total. This would be especially true since she would feel his instincts and motivations as distorted because of the cultural indoctrination he might have taken on via patriarchal and religious thought and philosophy.

Patriarchy cannot function if a woman trusts her natural instincts in any way but especially sexually.

3.

The sexual life of a woman must be focused on procreation.

It is alright if within this context a woman experiences pleasure during sex but if she has it in her head that she can have sexual intimacy in order to experience pleasure or to feel open to life and experience herself as a loving, spiritual being, the rhythms of dominance and control are thrown off. For this style of culture creation and maintenance to function well, a woman must come to believe that her sexual self best serves life, the Universe, or some god or other by being available to bring children into the patriarchal world.

In many ways, digging into Lilith's story leads us to dig down into the root of the patriarchy itself. As we view these three rules with some measure of detachment, understanding that its entire cultural, religious, and political project rests upon the establishment and enforcement of these rules, we can see that the story of Lilith has been a primary vehicle for shaming the natural inclinations of women to honor their bodies and true sexual natures – their natural inborn rhythms when it comes to life itself. You will read below in "Meet Lilith," the chapter on myth and archetype, a full treatment of Lilith's story and it will bring all of this to life.

We Don't Want Matriarchy Either

It is easy to get a wistful look in the eye and wish a matriarchal system would instead serve as the backdrop of our lives. *Ah*, the thinking goes, *things were much better when the women ran things*. You can find all manner of bumper stickers and similar advertising messages to that effect.

The fact is that we are evolving. We used to live in and through matrilineal and matriarchal societies and that was a natural stage of our evolution. Then the emphasis shifted toward the masculine. We needed to learn what it was like and what would follow when we determined to create the world around us instead of encountering what we found and accepting it with gratitude and without asking questions. Our mythologies began to be retold to support the new cultural agenda and for the last few thousand years we have experienced an imbalance in the form of the emphasis on all things masculine. Going back to matriarchy would at this point simply be going to another *-archy*, which cannot serve us. Thinking matriarchy is preferable is okay in principle – especially as a model of social organization that honors the feminine – except that we are living through an unprecedented paradigm shift and no *-archy* can possible serve us going forward.

From a bird's-eye view considering the evolution of human consciousness and therefore life, there are some key reasons not just that we swerved into the imbalance that is patriarchy but that it was in fact good for us. As a collective we needed to elevate the masculine (and in the process diminish the feminine) so that we could observe what would happen if we did. It is true that the patriarchy has been damaging to us as a collective and to an incredibly high number of individuals. But it is a fact that we must exercise our free will if we are to learn and evolve. Moving the emphasis to the masculine way of being was an important step in our collective journey because we had never done it before.

What an idea. We had never before chosen to overlook or forget that the Earth is our mother. Never before had we as a collective so valued the natural energetic makeup and undertones of one half of the population and one half of ourselves on the individual level. We had to do this in order to learn precisely what we are learning now: *We as a species can make choices that lead to imbalance, that reflect our need to figure out just how much control we have or might turn out to have on our environment and lives. We can choose to overlook essential parts of our nature in the pursuit of ideas. We can tell ourselves a story about who we are then force ourselves and each other to try to live up to it.* The fact is that we have the right to tell ourselves who we are and then try to live up to it even if it brings pain and distortion. We are the Divine incarnate, after all, and we came here to learn about how to live.

We all know as individuals that we have the capacity to choose destruction for ourselves. When we see it in others we hope they will come to love themselves more and make better choices, and sometimes they do and sometimes they do not. Think of all the times you observed destructive behavior in a loved one and accepted that he or she needed to find out the result on his or her own, learn the lesson, and experience the consequences of expressing his or her free will. It is the same with us as a collective when it has come to the elevation of the masculine that resulted in the diminishment of the feminine that we are all trying to come out of now. We need to make mistakes in order to deepen understanding. And deepening our understanding is the reason we are here – it is why we incarnate.

One of the things we have been learning in this process over thousands of years is to refine our understanding of who we are and why we are here. The search for meaning that is ingrained in the human psyche has during this era of patriarchy veered into the territory of mind – the primary home of active, masculine energy – the planner and strategist, for example. As I see it, there are several reasons why this happened. First, the Earth has always been considered feminine. Gaia is essentially the original goddess in the history of humans relating to Divine energies or beings. The Earth was our mother until we experienced certain difficult periods during which it seemed no longer willing to nurture and protect us. Drastic weather events that lead to climate change had us feeling that we did not deserve to suffer and so why was our mother treating this way? We had decided we are better than other animals, and then we decided that we are not animals but the apex of evolution next to God, and this lead to a distrust of our mother and then a divorce from conceiving the Earth as such.

Second, we should spend some time understanding the cycle of astrological ages that results from the precession of the equinoxes. This cycle describes the retrograde motion of the Earth's axis and takes approximately 25,900 years to complete one rotation. As the Earth's axis is tilted, it points toward each constellation in turn during this cycle. The constellation at which it points determines the astrological age in which we are living. As of this writing we are nearing the end of the Piscean Age. Since this cycle retrogrades, the age following Pisces in this cycle is Aquarius, with the one preceding it being Aries.

The Age we are in should be understood as coloring the unfolding and experience of life on Earth. It represents an energetic backdrop to whatever else is going on and its qualities are explored by us in new ways and forms. We innovate in ways that reflect a new collective understanding of and relationship to the energy in question. It is the collective consciousness and unconscious that is affected by this and, as a result, the consciousnesses of individuals are shaped in important ways by the fact of their exposure to the collective.

The patriarchy has been a solid system for almost 6,000 years. When it formed we were in the early days of the Age of Taurus. This mode of the zodiac has to do with survival in that we need to develop skills and resources to ensure it. A primary end point of living through this energy is to develop self-esteem, to learn to love the self, and then get in action to support the survival of the self. Entering that Age, it was natural that the collective mind shifted toward looking at what we as a species needed to do to take care of ourselves and control how our lives unfolded. The major weather events and climate changes that had previously occurred were now felt as meaningful indications that the Earth was no longer to be considered a nurturing mother figure who would protect us. We knew we needed to develop strategies to protect ourselves and we did it. All of this is meant to explain some of the reasons that patriarchy felt like the right way to go for us as a species for a few thousand years. The transition we are in now is in coming out of all extremes of this history, and the mindsets that lead to it.

The Age of Taurus lead to that of Aries (remember we are progressing backward through the zodiac), which featured action, assertion, and initiation based in the collective values cemented during the Age of Taurus. Following Aries was the Age of Pisces, where we have been for approximately 2,100 years. During this Age we have come together into new forms and scales of collectives as we seek to learn to merge together and to merge with what seems or feels true. Now we are at the edge of the

Age of Aquarius, which will invite us to free ourselves from anything that constricts, binds, and limits us, and holds us back. A major feature of the advent of the Aquarian Age will be to take back notions of sexuality, gender, and relationships from those outmoded models set and processes set in motion 6,000 years ago during the Age of Taurus when we needed to develop solid footing to figure out how we would be able to survive by learning to take care of ourselves. The Age of Aquarius will ask us to free ourselves from convention and reinvent ourselves according to who we are in the present moment. We will know who that is through detached observation of what is happening and choosing to separate ourselves from old, outmoded structures, systems, and ways of being that do not serve us and the direction in which we want our lives to go, all Aquarius key words and phrases.

Healing The Wild

All of the information in this book is intended to support a reconnection to the natural wild within, which will lead to a reconnection to the natural wild outside ourselves. Some find the wild outside a great way to connect with the wild within. Others of us have become conditioned to spend much time indoors and, essentially, forget about nature until it interferes with our plans, makes our commutes more difficult, or gets in the way of the natural civilized order within a given environment.

I call my approach to Lilith and have titled this book "Healing the Wild" because our relationship with our inner natures directly creates our relationship to nature and the planet. It has occurred to me that how one treats his or her body is a reflection of how one treats the Earth. I update the old astrology maxim "As above, so below" to "As inside, so outside." This works on the level that as individuals we are energetic beings creating our external realities but also when it comes to our relationship with the natural world: if you are afraid of parts of yourself, then you will be afraid of parts of the natural world. If you are willing to look with open eyes at the things that your body does and needs that you cannot control, you will be more willing to view the natural world and your place in it with open eyes and respond to it in conscious, respectful ways.

Healing Lilith within is about healing sexual traumas, histories of domination-submission, and learning to respect our bodies as extensions of nature, yes. But individual work with those and all other Lilith themes will lead humanity as a collective to more honesty, understanding, and insight into how we humans are animals, how we are connected to the rest of life, and indeed come not just to consider or think that we are or might be extensions of the natural world, but come to feel that we are. Social movements to honor the Earth tend to unfold within the structures of the patriarchy but the destructive ways in which we treat the Earth cannot be ended through half-hearted legislation that aims to keep corporations and their leaders happy. It can come only through a shift in how individuals understand and experience who they are. We will not treat the Earth with more kindness until we learn how to treat ourselves with more kindness. We will not treat the other beings on this planet with respect until we learn to treat other humans with respect. None of these things can happen if we are unconsciously reliving routines that elevate the masculine while diminishing the feminine. I believe that it cannot happen until we relearn how to experience ourselves as members of the natural order – as extensions of the natural world – and not as its users and abusers.

We can end the war on the feminine for good by ending it within ourselves.

Now we're ready to meet Lilith.

Meet Lilith

When retelling the stories of mythological figures, I always begin with recounting the story as we have received it. It is important to have perspective on that version as a baseline teaching transmitted to us that is told in order that we can learn how to be good and productive members of society. Myth is always a tool of social instruction. Without it, we would have no models of acceptable and unacceptable attitudes and behaviors. We would, in other words, have no idea who we should be, what we are supposed to believe, and how we should live. As Divine beings born in a state of forgetting this and intending to live as humans, we need to be trained about how to be human and so we need the training and conditioning of which myth is a part.

Lilith is present in the mythologies of numerous cultures under different names and sharing similar attributes though the cultural responses to those attributes do vary somewhat. My work on this goddess has been inspired and informed entirely by the effects of the cultural teachings concerning the feminine that have been handed down through Judeo-Christian religions and cultures. For this reason I focus my take on Lilith in her roots in Judaism and its treatment of the feminine through its treatment of this goddess and all she represents. It is not to take issue with that religion and I do not intend to criticize its adherents. But to understand how we have become shaped to live Lilith's stories, we simply must understand how that religious philosophy approaches Lilith.

This story is not found in the book of Genesis but it is found in several places in the commentaries on that book generated by scholarly rabbis in the Jewish tradition over many years. These commentaries are called *Midrashic* texts. They contain the thoughts, clarifications, and observations of rabbinic scholarly writers on the holy scriptures. In this case, however, this is where the story itself is to be found. While it is not included in the Torah or Hebrew Bible, it is foundational to that tradition and the story is transmitted via various means including those *Midrashic* texts and a number of religious laws and traditions, though in the latter it is to be found indirectly.

At a workshop on Lilith a few years ago, a woman asked if Lilith is really so important, why had she never heard of her? It is a fantastic question! I had been talking about how important this story is and how it is foundational to the patriarchy, spelling out all the arenas of life I see it shaping and affecting. My feeling on why it was not included in Genesis is that telling the story openly, having it out there for anyone to read easily, would have served to keep the name and story of Lilith in the forefront of the consciousness of the people. The shape, arc, and tenor of the story were retained as important to induce fear about relating to the natural feminine within women in honorable ways, but Lilith is considered in that tradition the mother of all demons and gets little public air time. My sense is that the shapers of that culture couldn't risk anyone daring to interpret the story on his or her own and so control of its transmission became important.

The story of Lilith is central to that tradition and to the patriarchy itself.[7] When discussing Lilith in an interview for her podcast a few years ago, evolutionary astrologer Dena DeCastro said to me that the story of Lilith sounds like the story of the patriarchy itself and she's right: the codification of an approach to diminish the natural feminine in all its forms was itself the foundation of the rise of patriarchal thought, and early Jewish thinkers set the stage for the development of the patriarchy through the diminishment and control of the feminine as evidenced in how they tell

the story of Lilith. The patriarchal culture shapers needed to tell us the story of Lilith so that the property-passing agenda could be instituted and deeply rooted. In other words patriarchy needed a female mythic figure with a strong sense of her natural sexuality that could not come under control by a man to make a villain, and Lilith fit the bill.

Lilith's story therefore not only tells us something important about who we truly are as humans but also who many of us have been trying to be for 6,000 years. Specific controls on the expression of the feminine have served to generate certain conceptions of self that are not natural and that do not reflect who we really are as humans. It applies to all arenas of life and affects all avenues of expression, and digging through the masculine-centered approach that has been our cultural inheritance for this era can take time. Whether someone did this when a child, when he or she hit adolescence, at marriage or childbirth or well into adulthood, getting to the bottom of who Lilith is and how we each carry the raw, primal energy of Lilith takes a lot of effort. It requires that we to a large degree unplug from the matrix of thought that binds us together and tells us who we are and should be. In fact, it requires that we at least for a time withdraw from prevailing arenas of the social contract itself in order to retool how we conceive of ourselves and choose to behave. This can include distancing ourselves from our families and communities if they are in some way communicators of the cultural teachings about the negativity of the natural feminine and all that it does and means. Such separation can be difficult for any of us, even when we do not agree with those families and communities, and it can be difficult to go off on our own.

What does it do to women for men to create, enact, and enforce strict controls on female sexuality? How does the psychological state embodied and handed down from woman to woman in patriarchal traditions shape women's relationships with their bodies? What about how women receive from men instructions about the right ways to be a woman? These are major questions that many individuals have explored in their various lives over the millennia and I believe we are as a collective ready now to move into a more conscious relationship with all that is feminine. Retelling Lilith's story, taking it back to serve us in healing and becoming whole once again, opens the door to answering these and other questions.

The Lilith Myth

The story is that when God created Adam, he created him male and female. Things were great until while naming the animals, Adam realized that each other animal had a natural mate but he did not. He copulated (or, I have to insert, "attempted" to do so) with the female of each species, looking to find the one that had been created to be his other half. It was obvious in the end that none had been. When he was finished, he asked God why all the animals had a mate but he did not. God replied that Adam had been created as both male and female in one body but that to assuage Adam's loneliness he would separate Adam into two parts, male and female. The result was Adam and Lilith.

They were very happy together. Each now had someone to talk with, spend time with, play and eat with, and make love with. – each had another to share life with. But in their lovemaking Adam insisted on dominance, on always being on top. Lilith told him that they had been made of the same stuff at the same time and therefore were equals, but Adam protested. He believed that while he was made of Earth (or dust), which is clean, she was made of sediment, which is impure. She insisted that they were equals, and then he insisted they were not, and this standoff in time lead her to leave him. She made a choice not to be dominated, choosing instead to go out into the wilderness on her own.

Yes, she left the only man on Earth – it was that bad.

She was intent on being who she was and expressing herself as she naturally was. She went to live in a cave to take care of and fend for herself. It was on the edge of the Red Sea, where it is said that demons lived. I take these beings to be simply outside the reach of the Hebrew God, so they are said to be demons as a way of ensuring that people would not try to know who these other beings were or are. She enjoyed a social life with these beings and copulated with them freely, bearing it is said one hundred immortal children each day. She created a place for herself there that she could not possibly have had with Adam. She was not dominated by anyone and she creatively and sexually expressed herself openly. She was, in this free and robust expression, more whole than her relationship with Adam had allowed her, even though she always knew that Adam was her natural other half.

Adam, sitting over in the Garden of Eden surrounded by all the wondrous beauty with no one to share it with, became lonely. He asked God to make Lilith come back so he wouldn't have to be lonely anymore. God sent three angels with difficult-to-pronounce names[8] to Lilith with a message: *Come back and live with Adam, or your immortal children will no longer be immortal, and you will watch them die*. She tells the angels that God had in fact appointed her to a special task, that of watching over children, and so this treatment would be unjust. Their reply to her was that that was not important and the punishment would happen if she did not return to Adam.

She chose not to come back, and her children begin dying. She responded with rage, and it is said that the demon Lilith continues to this day to seek revenge against men in particular and humanity in general.

Remember that myth is always social instruction. We tell each other and our young stories in specific ways in order to ensure that we and they learn the right ways to think, believe, behave, and live in order to fit into society. Remember also that this function of myth is good and right and important – we have to learn somehow how to behave appropriately in our given contexts, and myth is the primary vehicle

for that learning across all cultures.

This myth teaches first and foremost that if you go against God, you will suffer. If you think that you have the right to make decisions for yourself that go against God's agenda, you will be punished, miserable, and alone. This myth has served the patriarchal agenda well and to several different ends. It has not just made women afraid to be naturally feminine – informed by the Goddess – but has also made the idea of questioning that God a dangerous prospect. Lilith first asserts equality and then independence, and then leaves where she belongs and is expected to be. Then she has the gall to disobey a direct instruction from God to return to Adam and must deal with the consequences. This is a moral tale – as is each and every myth – to teach women not to go against this conception of masculine god – or else. The loss of her children and the guarantee of a loss of status (and therefore the ability to survive socially within the cultural context and also literally) were dire consequences for going against the patriarchal grain for women at that time and over the millennia since the story was shaped and began to be told.

As stated above, this story is not told openly in either the patriarchal traditions or their associated religions. Telling it openly might serve as an invitation for some clever people to begin to get too clever for their own good! They might think for themselves about and through the story, unwinding some of it to see what it is intended to distance people from, namely a healthy relationship with the wild feminine. It is much easier to vilify a part of us if that part is never spoken about openly. If spoken of in the open, it would be harder to invest fear in it and perpetuate the bogey man status that the culture's solidity relies upon in order to keep people from being happy about finding Lilith within themselves and relating to and celebrating the natural wild within.

If we look at conceptions and treatments of natural, wild aspects of the feminine in the Hebrew tradition we can see how the story is told. Telling the story in that tradition happens for the mainstream population obliquely yet it can be seen in certain traditional approaches to women and femininity. The example that often sings loudest to me is that of a woman's sexuality and the conceptions of and relationship with her body she is supposed to have. There are very specific requirements in place to ensure that a woman does not bring Lilith themes out in the open and in obvious ways, and in general there seems no room for this instinctive energy. Great pains have been taken to ensure that the natural processes of the body – including sexual desire and the urge for sexual activity – are brought under the control of men or at minimum understood and interpreted through the lens of masculine-inspired thought.

In that tradition, a woman is responsible if a man finds her desirable. She is responsible for the arousal or passion she might inspire in a man by the fact of her attractiveness. A married woman therefore covers her hair at all times in the presence of men who are not her husband or in her immediate family. This is done with head coverings or wigs. The thinking is that if a man finds her attractive and/or is aroused by her hair, at least it's not her real hair. Even if a man who is not her husband is aroused by her, she is not to be blamed if he desired her as a result of seeing her wig. Making a woman responsible for a man's desire is part of the patriarchal process of relieving a man of responsibility for himself, his desires and, ultimately, his behavior.[9]

The next example is that when a married woman menstruates, she is not to be touched by men. She is thought to be unclean and needs to be ritually bathed in

order to come back to a state of cleanliness. I have heard women who experience this ritual bathing as beautiful and profound, one that connects them in deep ways to their femininity and brings them closer to their god. Yet the reasoning behind this practice, the original patriarchal thought, is that a menstruating woman is unclean. This practice was not born of a desire to support women in connecting with God. It centers on a judgment of a natural process of the body and causing women to go through a process to make themselves acceptable once more. It is about preventing men from being tainted by the impurities of women, a strong Lilith theme on its own.

I have also heard from women who either are doing this or used to do it and felt that it was rooted in a basic lack of loving acceptance of the natural processes of a woman's body. Obviously, there will be different opinions from different individuals but as we look at the patriarchal mindset, informed by its bottom-line goal of ensuring the transmission of property through male lines, ritual bathing falls into the category of inserting a control on a woman's experience of and relationship with her body's natural processes. These rituals were not formed by women for the benefit of women even if it is true that some or many women find within them cause for appreciation and experiencing a deepened sense of spiritual connectedness – far from it. They were created by men in order to keep a woman's perceived natural impurities from affecting men in negative ways and to ensure that a woman considered the natural processes of her body as dirty as a man did.

These are just two examples of how Lilith themes manifest in that culture. I do not seek to say anything negative about those ways of believing and living. I wish to look through the apparent reality and reveal the original impulse for instituting these teachings. All humans are learning about the right ways to live and conceive of and treat self and other. Through such teaching as it occurs in various cultures, we have been learning to have very definite and judging opinions about what the feminine is and means.

Should we celebrate attractiveness? Should we appreciate the beauty of a woman? Should we honor the natural cycles of the body as beautiful and enabling us to remain consciously connected to the natural world, to remind us that our bodies are part of nature and extensions of the Earth itself? Each culture develops answers based in a core philosophy about what the feminine is, does, should be, and should do. The religious culture mentioned above has at its core a fear of the natural feminine and of the natural world. It therefore vilifies all that cannot be brought under very specific forms of control. Now we are tasked with evaluating our choice to re-enter into relationship with the feminine in conscious ways that do celebrate and appreciate what the natural, wild feminine brings. We have lived through millennia of fearing it and of treating it and women as enemies to progress and the ways we are supposed to live. We now have the choice to change our minds.

The Lilith Archetype

Moving on to the archetype, let's look at what this story covers over in the pursuit of teaching us how to be good and compliant members of patriarchal society.

While myth is the socially-sanctioned version of the story told openly, you could think of archetype as a sort of "software" each of us has access to as we are part of the human collective related to the story. Archetype is available to us as we exist with a constant connection to the collective unconscious. They are the stories we live that have nothing to do with the editing and shaping that culture creators employ to teach us about how to live in the worlds we create for ourselves. Archetype therefore connects us with and takes us closer to who we really are as humans, and away from who we are supposed to believe we are.

Myth teaches us how we should behave in order to be acceptable and successful in our given cultural and social contexts.

Archetype describe a natural part of who we are and how we are inclined to live if we honor ourselves.

Learning to view a myth for what it is and then learning to retell the story connects us to who we are on the inside. It lets us leave behind some of the deeply-ingrained expectations that we have been exposed to simply from being part of the societies we live in. Even if we didn't take that expectation on and force ourselves to believe we should live the myth version of the story, being conscious of it can have us judging ourselves for standing out from the crowd. We can feel shame or guilt for having lived an archetypal process that differs from the myth we are expected to find as we go about our living. Yet many of us simply do not find the myths we receive as told within us; we do not find ourselves as simple and uncomplicated, or as black or white or good or bad as the culture we live in seems to expect us to be. When we go inward in the search for true understanding we find not only an entire palette of wonderful greys but also entire palettes of other colors where we were told we were supposed to find black or white.

When individuals come to see the gap between myth and archetype, there can be a profound peace that begins to root within. There is a possibility of greater self-empowerment but more importantly, a space to accept and love the self opens. To be different from those that surround you can be difficult. In much of human history, to be different has definitely been a bad thing in many ways and especially when it comes to the cultural opinions about Lilith. Difference could get you shunned, run out of town, blacklisted, abused, and even killed in a wide variety of horrific ways. When the gap between myth and archetype is understood and a person stops judging the self for being different – for not possibly being able to fit in – that peace and opening for self-love can be a wash over lifetimes of struggle of trying either to change the self or to figure out how to try to fit in where one does not belong.[10]

The cultural transmission of the Lilith myth has left us all but unwilling or unable to love ourselves as Lilith. Some of us do and then find we cannot fit in. Others are curious if we should honor our instinctive, wild sides, sometimes feeling torn between the reality inside ourselves and the prescriptive outer reality that seeks to tell us who we should be. We can no longer avoid seeing this part of ourselves and loving it. It is no longer tenable to try not to love Lilith when found in self and other. The implications of altering our relationship with the natural feminine include how we

conceive of and interact with the planet itself, and so I also believe that Lilith holds a key to our capacity to continue living on this planet.

A Return to Instinct

When I talk about the wild in relation to Lilith, I want you to think of instinct. I define instinct as the chemical, visceral knowing that our bodies offer us all the time. Instinct is a baseline facet of Lilith energy and it underlies everything we can say about her and her archetype as we experience it.

When healthy, Lilith listens to her body always. Each and every facet of life she allows the messages of her body to inform. A byproduct of patriarchal ways of seeing and thinking about who we are has lead us to attempt to distance ourselves from our animal natures in every conceivable way. Patriarchal thinking aims to control everything, to bring everything under some sort of predictable regulation. If humans remember themselves as another animal in the scheme of things on Earth and honor themselves as such, we cannot be controlled nearly as well as if we come to believe we are to be mental and intellectual beings, encouraged to deny our animal nature in favor what is rational.

Incorporating and relying on instinct can make us impossible to control. Some of us when connected to instinct would appreciate at least some of the normalizing ways of social structures, but it would be impossible to harness and direct the consciousness of the masses to form large, normative collectives, which is a primary patriarchal goal. Patriarchal social structure needs to keep as many people aligned together as possible and in numerous ways. If humans can be polarized into large opposing political parties, for example, individuals are at least aligned either for or against the prevailing climate of thought and public policy. Many who connect to our instinctive sides via a healthy and conscious approach to Lilith energy find it sickening and untenable to play the polarized and polarizing game of politics as we know it. The animal side of us doesn't spend time thinking in and talking in circles, doesn't argue, and isn't willing to spend time debating social issues or engaging in slanderous rhetoric meant to delay anything that looks like progress. That side of us, as an essential portion of our beings, teaches us to do what really counts and not waste time doing much more. What is necessary to survive, what brings us fulfillment and joy, and how we can maintain an active and conscious connection to nature and ourselves as extensions of it are the domains of this side of us.

I don't mean to paint a picture of this animal part of us as simple in a negative way – which would be based in a mind-centered value judgment we carry – though its aims are indeed not complex. The mind makes everything complex even if it doesn't need to be and we can revel in the resulting mental drama and thrills, even as we run ourselves ragged through that way of being. If we connect with Lilith's wild energy within us we will not *become* simple – will not become mindless bodies running on the input of chemicals alone. If you do this reconnection work Lilith offers, you will not become wild in the feared sense of the word![11] But learning to incorporate the wisdom of our animal selves and ourselves as extensions of nature, and letting that wisdom guide us, is something that clearly needs to happen at this stage in our collective and individual evolution.

What would that look like? For starters, you would become and remain conscious of your physiological and energetic responses to all stimuli – people, relationships, situations, dynamics, opportunities, and everything else. You would hear about or encounter a thing or situation and evaluate it with your feeling and physical self as

much as your mind and reasoning faculties. You would meet a person who "looks good on paper" and yet sense and honor an inner reaction that this person is not good for you to be around or involved with.

The body is a complex feedback instrument that offers one of two responses to each and every stimulus: *yes* or *no*. We have become trained to edit out this awareness of our bodies (or sometimes even ignore the fact that we have bodies) so that we might become paragons of reason, reason being the highest virtue in the collective mind since patriarchy took hold 6,000 years ago. We can listen or not listen to the body, of course, but it offers valuable information all the time about whether what we are encountering and experiencing is good for us or is not. We have been taught to fear a lot of what our bodies do and to discount the information they are always offering us.

In this way, reconnecting with Lilith is a process of reconnecting with the body as the vehicle for the soul's journey on this plane and reconnecting with the instinctive wisdom it always offers. When we look at the aims and ethos of allopathic medicine and other facets of modern life as an example (see below), we can see the patriarchal mindset manifest in stark ways: *What the body tells you is not worth listening to. Healing is supposed to hurt. Healing the body is not always possible and alleviating symptoms of imbalance often requires destroying some part of the body.*

When we are reconnected to the information of the body we can see the wisdom it offers. I have a friend who is very much a Lilith figure though she was not aware of Lilith's story until she met me. She told me about going to a gynecologist a few years ago and being told that she needed to begin taking birth control pills for reasons to do with hormone balancing – not contraception. She filled the prescription and began taking them and felt messed up. She stopped because her body told her this was not the solution to the issue that had been going on.[12] But how many women begin taking that pill on the advice of a physician and feel in their bodies that it isn't the right thing to do but continue doing it because they are told it will help; told it is supposed to help? Take a poll among women you know who have at one point been on the pill. First sort the list between those who intended to use it for contraceptive purposes and those who were prescribed it for other reasons, for some sort of chemical/hormonal imbalance. Then ask them how they experienced taking it and how they responded if it didn't feel right to do so.

This is now a major situation in our culture. Any chemical intervention employed for any reason serves to disconnect a person from the natural wisdom of his or her body. It is rampant in this culture and as we look at the pill specifically as a tool of sexual liberation over the last few decades we also have to take into account the physiological and emotional realities that follow having one's biochemistry affected in unnatural ways. When it comes to Lilith, the solution is not the birth control pill but to learn about the needs of the body in direct and conscious ways and to address those needs. In so far as we have been trained by the mindset that has created allopathic medicine, this can be a terrifying proposition. By default we are to expect that the body cannot be healed without chemical intervention and that there is no natural wisdom in the body. Because we have forgotten Lilith, we have forgotten truths about our bodies such as that they possess a tremendous natural healing ability and would if we would only let them do it.

That I believe that we have been trained out of listening to the wisdom of our bodies so that we are more controllable does not make me a conspiracy theorist. It makes me a realist. The sort I could have become only by finding routes to reconnect

with my own Lilith and then working with many women and men who are seeking to stop participating in the patriarchal war on the feminine in all its forms. Anyone who observes with objectivity the status of the feminine in prevailing cultural mindsets on Earth will see the damage that results from its diminishment. It is obvious – painfully so. Not just the treatment of women around the globe – but that of everything that can be thought of or labeled as feminine – can be observed to be in some stage of having the cultural imperative to diminish and control what is natural and flows freely acted out upon them. We are ready to heal this. We are ready to come back into balance by honoring who and what we really are and the inborn wisdom of our bodies.

Aspects of the Lilith Archetype

You could think of these aspects of the archetype as corners of and avenues through the Lilith experience. They represent a variety of aspects of the expression of the energy within us. Not everyone who lives Lilith stories will identify with all of them, though many might – there are different emphases for different people based on their conditioning, beliefs, and choices. If a person identifies strongly with any of these I would argue that he or she is living at least one sort of Lilith story.

- Accepting the body as it naturally is and letting it do what it does.
- Honoring and trusting instinct over what one is told or shown.
- Honoring and letting a primal rawness come out.
- Cultivating autonomy.
- Working toward equality in relationship in any way but especially when it comes to gender roles and the balance between masculine and feminine (active and passive).
- Willing to leave situations that are not fair or do not work in order to gain, maintain, or re-establish self-respect.

Each of these themes can play out in a person's life in health and medicine, food and nutrition, and relationships and sexuality. These are primary avenues of expression of Lilith's energy because we can get ourselves into trouble in each area through letting our ideas of what is or should be happening override what is actually happening. Each of these three areas of experience has been shaped in deep ways by the prevailing cultural agenda that is patriarchy because each offers a doorway into understanding more about nature as it exists within us. In many ways, patriarchy's war on the feminine has been aimed at divorcing us from our inner natures as humans in favor of shaping and adapting our minds to accept ideas of who we are that we will then use to run our lives.

Perhaps the most readily apparent Lilith-inspired conflict comes through relationship and sexuality. Over the last 40 years the philosophical system that is feminism has inspired many to revamp how their relationships work and this has been done through a Lilith-inspired lens, even if they have not been aware of it. Large numbers of people have decided that it is no longer acceptable that the feminine be second-class citizens or toe the masculine line without question in all arenas of relationship. People want equality, to be taken seriously, and to be respected as individuals making their own decisions.

Health and medicine are in the process of starting to catch up to relationships as a major site of Lilith-inspired action and healing as people choose alternative approaches to health. Non-Western medical treatments that honor the processes of the body and the person as a whole being have exploded into the consciousnesses of many and continue to gain footing. This is a major step forward for anyone who

chooses to take back power over their bodies by listening to them and treating them as the complex biofeedback machines that they are – energetic machines that can in fact be treated in ways that do not require damage in order to heal and that possess healing power if they are allowed to function naturally. The entire model of disease and healing prevalent in allopathic medicine is being revamped through individuals insisting on alternative options that recognize and respect the body's natural healing power for what they are and not as inconveniences over which the controlling mind can't help but trip in its commitment to denying them.

Food and nutrition is, however, remain far behind each of these. As I work with my own Lilith and observe and support others working with theirs, there are some things about the effects of ways of eating and living with food that are not yet understood by individuals enough to allow us to make a leap forward with Lilith's wisdom in this area. Our minds know that certain foods affect us negatively and do not function in us to create health and yet we are still in the early stages of learning to operate ourselves consciously as energetic beings when it comes to food and nutrition.

For those people who have imbalanced relationships with food it is likely that an imbalanced relationship with emotions is at the heart of it. Lilith offers routes to understanding the natural fluctuations of our emotional selves as well as accepting them. Suppression of natural emotion is a major cause of the energetic imbalances that can manifest as eating disorders whether clinically diagnosed or not. Listening to the emotional self and learning to honor it can lead to coming into balance with who we are and learning to take care of ourselves on all levels. Food and nutrition to my mind represent a critical avenue to learn about Lilith and the wild we all carry within us because our bodies are always telling us what we need. They are complex biofeedback machines that always offer one of two responses: *yes* or *no*. They draw us to certain foods at particular times and away from others periodically or consistently. Our bodies know what they need and we serve ourselves well by cultivating an openness to learn to interpret what they tell us when it comes to food and nutrition.

Considering the state of health in the United States and other industrialized nations, it is easy to see and tap into the terror in the numbers and statistics about the healthcare economy and the projected needs laid out for the coming decades. Being numbed through dealing with these numbers delivered by the talking heads of the news programs can prevent us from seeing that the solution to health and well-being rests with each individual. Government officials from their controlling-mind stances can tell us what we should be eating to avoid poor health until they are blue in their televised faces. No matter of a brain telling other brains what their bodies need will get us anywhere because the mind does not truly know what we need. Instinct and that firm *yes* or *no* from our bodies and their assorted chemical/hormonal systems are the only ways for humans to guide themselves into the right nutrition that builds health. This is in part because the mind works with ideals and then tries to make or force them into reality while the body as a natural feedback mechanism reflects the truth of what is happening with it, what is needed next, and what is not at all needed.[13]

Each person lending him- or herself to be part of the statistics of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and all other manner of conditions and diseases that are treatable is living in a physical body that contains the wisdom of the natural world. Each person alive on the planet is an extension of nature and his or her physical body possesses remarkable healing tendencies when allowed to express itself. Reawakening to Lilith in order to heal the wild within opens a door to taking back the power of health and

well-being from our minds and putting it in the hands of our bodies and the innate wisdom of the natural world that they possess. It wrests our futures and our ability to be happy and content living in our physical bodies from the tyranny of mind. And it is tyranny that our minds bring to us, telling us that it is the only source of information and wisdom.

I urge you to get into your body and make peace with that you find there that cannot be controlled. Doing this, you will be able to adapt your consciousness to how the Earth itself speaks to you through your body, as your body. You will be able to manage your well-being in proactive ways that honor instinct and who you are as a animal on this planet, always with the support of the Earth and the natural world to sense what is best for you, what works for you, and how you can bring more peace to your experience as a being on this planet.

Nine Stages of the Lilith Archetype

The aspects of the archetype listed above cover different life issues associated with Lilith within us. They represent various threads of her story that we might live. Yet there is a very juicy and important next step in exploring how we live Lilith stories. It is an arc of stages we move through as we process experiencing ourselves as Lilith. I offer nine stages of the archetypal process, which is an effort to introduce a way of understanding the stages of experience that we live in these stories. I have not come across such a process and felt it critical to generate one to support people in moving through various stages of identity as Lilith.

The cultural transmission states that if you are to live a Lilith story, you will stop at and embody what is described in the fifth of the nine stages, rage. In affixing the label "demon" to Lilith and telling stories of how she hurts men and children, we invest in an image of Lilith as angry and, frankly, all bad. It is now imperative that we expand our understanding of how we actually live Lilith stories. We need to open to progressing along this archetypal journey in whatever way we need to, working through and then leave behind whatever stage we might be stuck in. Each path is individual but there is a definite arc of processing the emotional realities of living Lilith stories that we share in common. Below I will explore the realities of being in each stage including when things seem to go wrong. Each person is complex and coming to the table with different expectations, needs, desires, and beliefs, and therefore there is a wide variety of stories that stem from living Lilith's stories in these nine stages. This is to say that while most of us will live Lilith's stories in the form of partner, spouse, and sexual relationships, we will also do so in the form of relating to our bodies and how we approach and seek health and well-being and food and nutrition.

When we live Lilith stories we invariably at certain times or during certain chapters of life find ourselves stuck in one phase or another. Which one a person may find him- or herself stuck in reflects that person's particular journey learning to live Lilith themes in an anti-Lilith world. For this reason I will also explore in the following sections some of the reasons we get ourselves stuck in the various stages and what in those cases is needed to move beyond it.

As with any archetypal process we live through, we are learning through our experiences. Some people spend more time in and/or get stuck in certain parts of the process. It is important to withhold judgment when this happens. We need to get deeply into the lessons and invitations of each stage so that when we find ourselves moving one step forward and then a step or two or three back, we can withhold

judgment of this natural unfolding of our learning process. There is no shame in the fact that archetypal journeys we go through are very rarely linear. It is not fair to the realities of the complexities of the human heart and psyche that we should expect to move cleanly from one stage to another and never look back. As multidimensional beings we carry many layers and our consciousnesses are informed by numerous factors that lead us to learn our lessons in nonlinear stages. Sometimes we find that something we learned decades ago has a sudden, new emphasis for us and that we can now see into a past situation with more clarity than ever before, though we thought we had processed it long ago. I invite you to read the stages of the Lilith archetypal process with this in mind and with a willingness to withhold judgments based in culturally-derived notions of progress.

For reasons that will become clear, for the first five stages I will follow and tie in the myth of Lilith as we have received it. The last four have become clear to me after several years of working a particular Lilith healing process with myself and others.

Stage One: Asserting Equality

Lilith's story begins when she presents herself as an equal to Adam. It is obvious to her that they are equals because they have been made of the same stuff at the same time. She recognizes what they naturally have in common and that biological reality guides her. She does not take the obvious fact that they are complementary (that there are physiological differences between them) as meaningful and worthy of creating a hierarchy or imbalance between them. She feels they are two halves of a whole and expects to be welcome to interact with him as an equal. She does not seek to compete with Adam but to create shared experience with him.

As we live this, sometimes we openly assert equality. Other times we assume that we are equals yet do not have open dialogue about those assumptions. We observe what we have in common with others and seek to work together in some way, in some form of relationship. We recognize difference between us but do not value our differences more than what we have in common.

One way of getting stuck in this stage is to prevent ourselves from asserting equality in the first place. If a person has been conditioned into not thinking of him- or herself as equality-asserting material – as worthy of being treated as an equal – the assertion of equality might never take place. It also happens that doing so might seem like (or be) asking for a fight and it's natural to want to avoid conflict when we seek to get along with others. Also belonging to this stage are experiences in which we tentatively assert ourselves but give more weight to others' responses that we are not actually equals and that we should stop asserting ourselves; stop believing that we have the right to stand up for ourselves and have an active say in our lives. In some people's lives this happens a few times overtly and then they cease to speak up about the issue in question, choosing to remain silent going forward over the possibility of being corrected, admonished, or punished again. Remember that while our Lilith stories can play out in all kinds of relationships, it is very common for them to play out most loudly in our family and romantic/sexual relationships. This happens because of the fact that Lilith's story begins at home, with her mate – with the man who is her family and partner.

To navigate this stage successfully we have to believe in ourselves and our right to stand up and be counted as equal. We must believe in our right to exist and in the idea that an individual has rights within relationship – including us. People in various circumstances may spend a long time working through this stage and there

are all kinds of reasons that this can happen. For those who feel stuck here, learning to value the self as much as one values others is critical.

This is the stage of the process in which we come to know ourselves as beings who have the right to exist, make decisions on our own behalf, and develop the strength and confidence to become the person who is running our lives. Sometimes to work through a block in this stage requires that we learn to put ourselves first enough in order to collect the strength to stand up assert that we are equals.

Stage Two: Meeting Attempts to Dominate or Edit Us

When we stand up as Lilith and assert equality, we often find out who in our lives or environments is not interested in allowing us to think of ourselves as equals, as having the right to speak up, make decisions for ourselves, or follow our own path. Many people experience attempts by others to edit their expression in one way or another, both subtle and overt. They don't always look like domination but I file them here. They all have in common an attempt to edit or shift us out of doing what we know we need to do – what we feel instinctively is true and right for us – to follow someone else's agenda for or idea of who we are.

The reasons others would respond to us in these ways are numerous. Sometimes we are in relationships with people who accept us and/or thrive when we are feeling low or disempowered or have low self-esteem. Forms of this abound and aren't always apparent for what they are. They will have in common a self-confidence, strength, or power differential that never seems to vary much and actually serves as the glue of the relationship. A power differential can be expressed overtly as one person always dominating the other and it can also be that one member of the relationship subtly or passive-aggressively "traps" the other person into unhealthy dynamics. In all its forms, this kind of thing seems held together by love and the continuation of love is the promised outcome of maintaining the dynamic.

Whatever the circumstances in our relationships, how we respond to such attempts is everything. It is easy to respond with anger – *how dare you edit me!*, and the like. It is just as common, though, to consider the opinion of the other and then take a look at what we've said or been up to in the spirit of being reasonable and honoring those with whom we have relationships. It is true that we can use the objections of other people to help us see ourselves better. When it comes to Lilith-like expression, we then have to ask *why* each person in the situation is doing what he or she is doing. For the self, we need to understand where this assertion of equality is coming from. It might actually be something else wearing a mask of self-assertion and this stage is where we would find that out by looking inside. If it is in fact an instinctual need to assert the self then we will need to learn or figure out how to honor it and the objection or attempted editing of another person is a perfect trigger to inspire or drive us to gain clarity on the situation. If on the other hand it is simply anger and resentment at having been met with an attempt to edit or dominate us, then we need to take responsibility for it and not use it to fight another.

We also need to consider the nature of the objection of the other person and his or her motivation. Sometimes it turns out that he or she has our best interests at heart and is offering us valuable feedback and not really trying to edit, step on, or dominate us. Other times that person is trying to edit us so that we are not as loud, honest, present, joyful, free, or open as we are. Perhaps he or she is embarrassed by the content of our expression or its volume. In this case the motivation is not based in our best interests and we need to learn to deal with that in healthy ways.

Attempts to dominate in this stage can be experienced as outright suppression, abuse, or violence of one kind or another. Many people who have been shaped by living Lilith's stories have in this stage been abused in various ways. It is one of the socially-ingrained responses to people behaving as Lilith figures, bringing Lilith out in the light of day for all to see. People having grown up in most cultures will have been trained to fear the wild and what cannot be controlled. Not everyone will cling to the subtle and not-so-subtle cultural teachings of how the feminine is to be dealt with but many people feeling surprised by encountering the wild in another person might at first respond as they have observed others responding, namely abuse of some kind. It is important to understand that this treatment of the feminine is a cultural sickness and, at present, affects most living on the planet. Because of the fear ingrained in us about all things that operate according to instinct and natural law, our creativity in responding to feminine influences has become extremely limited.

Getting stuck in this stage can occur when we refuse to acknowledge the reality of what is in front of us. It can also lie in being paranoid about the possibility that everyone or many people are out to edit and/or dominate us. It is not true that people are always out to get us when we show up as Lilith. It can happen that their challenge-oriented responses simply reflect that meeting Lilith on open terms in the form of another person is not something they've experienced much or find themselves comfortable experiencing. The majority of this book is focused on the negative possibilities in how we live Lilith stories specifically because of just how widespread is our confusion about how to live with and honor all things naturally and wildly feminine. Yet there are people who want to meet more Liliths in the world!

We can also get stuck in this stage when we engage in a fight. When others have challenged us about our right to be autonomous or express ourselves in the ways we feel are best for us, we can take those challenges as calls to battle. It is of course true that standing up for ourselves is important but when we live Lilith stories, engaging in battle with those who would suppress us is not a healthy end point. Lilith when healthy and confident stands up and is clear about who she is. If as we live this story others are clear that we are not acceptable, engaging in a fight with them about our right to be who we are and live how we need to is counter-productive.

To successfully navigate this stage we need to recognize clearly and categorize the different kinds of responses we receive to our assertions made in the first stage. It becomes important here to choose what kind of response we will have to each kind. To those that attempt to edit us, we can choose to negotiate or build a bridge to some sort of understanding. To those that seek to help us see what we are doing and how we are expressing ourselves with more consciousness, we can be grateful.

There is also the issue of responding without thinking – a lá the old jerk of the knee – instead of recognizing what is happening and then making a choice about how we will respond. If we have felt abused or been stepped on for being Lilith, when others attempt to edit us we can react harshly out of all proportion to the situation at hand in an attempt to make sure we are not vulnerable to being hurt again. Navigating this stage well requires that we sort all of this out so that we are able to respond in the moment to what is really happening.

Stage Three: Flight

After the argument about who gets to be on top, Lilith left Adam. She decided it wasn't an appropriate place to be given his out-of-hand dismissal of her position and insistence that she submit to him. She went off into the wilderness to fend for herself,

ending up near the edge of the Red Sea, the place with all those demons.

Sometimes after we have stood up to someone attempting to edit or control us, we have to leave the dynamic. Sometimes it is possible to work things through and sometimes it is not. In Stage Two ideally we learned to discern with clarity which situation is which and how to know when we are in some way threatened and when we are not but perhaps reacting to past pain from attempts to control us, threats, and/or abuse.

When flight in this stage is literal, we feel we have to leave where we've been – perhaps where we have felt deeply that we belonged – in order to survive in one way or another. Literal survival is not always at stake but our emotional and physical well-being, autonomy, and self-respect can certainly be at risk if we remain in situations in which we are somehow threatened as a result of showing up as a Lilith figure and meeting others who do not want anyone to do so, others who cannot see how and why to relinquish control over us and treat us as equals.

In this stage we need to understand the difficulty that comes with leaving home and going out on our own. This in fact can be *extremely* difficult. The emotional impact of leaving home as Lilith did is significant even if leaving home leads to the creation of freedom and a better way of life as it did for her. When faced with leaving, I feel Lilith weighing her options: *Stay and be my mate's submissive and feel ever more dead inside over time, or leave and go out into the unknown with no resources, contacts, or a place to live, and fend for myself in the great outside world.* She after all had been living with her natural other half –a place where she very clearly belonged but perhaps it's more accurate to say that with Adam is *the* place in which she belonged.

When considering leaving a situation that offers or promises domination or abuse or is in some other way damaging, the idea of leaving can give us hope. We can dream of the great life we'd have if didn't have to be here, if we could leave and go out on our own – if we had the resources, the opportunity, and/or the guts to stop experiencing this suppression and pain. And then when we do leave, the world can sometimes reveal itself to be a cruel place. Lilith has no idea about what is or might be waiting for her once she leaves and often we also do not. There is no way to know. She makes the decision to leave because anything she might find out there has to be better than what she is experiencing where she is. She has the deepest sense of faith that she can take care of herself, come what may. In other words, the fear of the unknown is not greater than her faith in herself – she knows she will know what's best and be able to make the right decisions for herself.

Being intimately connected with instinct and body, she has an experience of the surrounding world that is not guided by fear as happens when we rely solely on our minds. One of the mind's jobs is to run through contingency scenarios so that we can feel we are prepared for anything that might happen in order to avoid getting hurt. Lilith, however, goes with her gut instinct and because she is accustomed to that she has every confidence that she will make it no matter what comes her way. For this reason our own flight needs to be predicated on a deep level of faith in the self. It is not simply trust, which is sort of a bet. Faith differs in that it is rooted inside us at our core.

Where we can get stuck in this stage includes that our flights might not be literal. Sometimes we can encounter challenges to our autonomy and freedom in Stage Two and mentally and emotionally check out instead of leave, remaining physically in

the same place yet mentally and/or emotionally somewhere else. Where we are can be a horrible place to be but sometimes we don't leave physically – sometimes we can't. Sometimes we fear what might be waiting for us. Perhaps we know of others who have left terrible situations and found something worse out in the world. Maybe we've heard stories of the great unknown that is the world that have left us unwilling to risk literal flight. We might think, *At least this horrible thing I'm living with here is a known. At least I know what to expect. At least I'm familiar with this treatment.*

Becoming emotionally and/or intellectually vacant can result. We can go through the motions of our lives and get done all the necessities of daily life. We can continue to interact to a degree and on certain levels with others in our lives. To others, it can seem that nothing particular has happened but that a few years ago we sort of seemed to have a little more life in us than we do now. When this is the case, moving on from this stage will require coming back to be fully present and making a decision to leave.

There can be tremendous guilt if we do leave but when we need to yet do not, there can arise a sense of shame and self-loathing. All who left and all did not leave who feel either shame or guilt for anything related to it are hereby officially invited to release the guilt or the shame and self-loathing. Whatever the choice that was made, it has been part of the process of learning how to live Lilith's stories, which is a part of learning how to live human lives as soul embodied in physical vehicles. Each of us who live any part of this archetypal journey are learning from the inside out about the cultural imbalance and sickness that has developed into the war on the feminine and the wild, natural parts of life.

All are also invited to let go of regret. For those hung up either on a past choice of leaving or not leaving and regretting it, a deep level of acceptance is in order. Once a bridge is burned or an opportunity to leave missed, it is easy to regret. Remember that we are talking about a person leaving a literal or a figurative home. It wouldn't be a Lilith story if we didn't feel on a fundamental level that we belonged there. We have to trust ourselves enough to know that the instinctive decision we need to make is the right one in the moment, and then have faith that trusting ourselves is what we need to do even if the circumstances of our lives get hairy, painful, and difficult.

When we feel we are at home, it is natural to feel a certain level of commitment and to feel loyal to our families and partners. These family bonds run deep and are incredibly important to us, of course. When it comes time to leave so that we can take of ourselves in better ways we will confront our sense of loyalty and our particular level of commitment to the people we leave behind.

Another way to get stuck in this stage is to flee because of fear and not because of self-love. Just to get away from awful situation X can seem a great reason to go, but if we leave it in a state of fear and do not have faith in ourselves to know what is best and that we will make the right decisions, wherever we land can offer a situation and dynamic Y just as bad as the one we left.

Navigating this stage well requires developing a deep and strong level of self-confidence in order to have faith that we can make it on our own when we need to. It also calls on us to be realistic about our commitments and the sense of loyalty we have to our families and spouses or mates. We have to weigh our health and survival against the importance of those bonds and commitments. Ideally we are able to prioritize ourselves over our commitments, though of course sometimes we cannot. Again, compassion for ourselves if we have regrets is critical to passing through this stage in a healthy way.

Stage Four: Separation

When Lilith leaves Adam, we have to know that she experiences the effect of tearing herself away from home as in some way traumatic. She has after all left her natural other half. At this point in the archetypal process it does not matter why she left, only that she has removed herself from the place to and in which she knew she belonged. This is not discussed in the story as we have received it because with the goal of demonizing Lilith, those shaping and telling this myth cannot allow Lilith to seem human and have the same sorts of feelings that we would have in the same situation. We are to know that she left Adam and are not to assume that she feels the emotions that any of us would feel in that situation. We're to think she left because she refuses to get on board, to get with the program, and that's it – that she's difficult and a bad seed.

In this stage we don't have time to feel what just happened. We are on the go, trying to figure out our next step, responding to everything often without thought and in survival mode. We have to focus on our immediate needs.

After Lilith leaves Adam, the story goes, God sends three angels to deliver her a message: *Return to Adam or see your immortal children become mortal and watch them die.* We hear that she refuses to return and so begins to watch her children die. We do not hear that this is a difficult situation for her because we are to believe that she is headed toward becoming the mother of all demons and again, we are not to believe for a minute that she has the same sorts of feelings we would have in this situation.

As I observe how we live her stories, I know that Lilith feels forced to make this choice and feels the impact of it in a deep way. I believe she has to weigh returning to Adam and, in effect, submitting to him and/or being some sort of slave to him or watching her children die. The children she has had with these demons over by the edge of the Red Sea are manifestations of her creative and sexual freedom. Sometimes for us in this stage the children are literal and sometimes they are anything that we have created of our own creative free will. In effect, the evidence of and grounds for her autonomy would be wiped out if she returned to Adam. If she went back to him, she would give up her ability to consider herself important as well as surrender a large measure of her sanity and self-respect.

There is also an element of betrayal in this stage that needs to be discussed. When the angels bring the message to Lilith, she tells them that God would not threaten her in this way because she agreed at his invitation to do a very important job on his behalf. When she left Adam, God asked her to look over and protect children and she agreed. It was a special task and it seems to me that it was a way for God to let Lilith know that she was important even as she struggled with the decision to leave Adam. The angels tell her in effect that this doesn't matter and that she must come back or her children will become mortal and they will die.

This betrayal also engenders shock. It became clear that Lilith is truly on her own, not even with the support of God – with whom she had had a decent enough relationship for him to ask her to protect and look over children. Her decision to leave Adam is therefore not simply leaving her natural other half or mate and her home. It becomes at this stage a decision to leave her God or, we could say, a decision to leave her connection to the spiritual self that she had always known and a sense of being supported by all that is good in life.

This is the stage in which we learn about the seriousness and focus of the

patriarchal mindset when it comes to a woman's choice to be submissive to a man or to follow the agenda set by the male mind or a man in her life. It becomes crystal clear that each form of support Lilith might experience from all sides will be denied her if she does not return to live with Adam – if she does not choose to submit to his will. We are to believe that we cannot make it on our own without the supports that have existed in our lives to date even if they do not honor us in ways that we need.

We can get stuck in this stage by remaining disconnected from the reality of what has happened and our feelings about it. There is a certain level of simply addressing the basics of survival that is necessary as we gather and line up resources – including perhaps an entirely new living situation – and adjust to the reality of the betrayal if there has been one. Yet we can get derailed from connecting with reality if we fall into shock or if we do not take care of ourselves in such a way as to come out of it. Shock on some level should be expected during this stage yet we need to take care not to get stuck there.

We can also get stuck in this stage when we close ourselves off from the possibility of receiving help and support from others. It is true that we have had to separate ourselves from home – where we know we belong. Just because we have had to cut ourselves off from that place and those people does not mean that we should close ourselves off from everyone and commit to being isolated or playing the part of the hermit. Perhaps in the moment we need to close ourselves off from others in order to get a handle on what we need to do and why and how but it's important to take care not commit to shutting everyone else out for good. It's best not to make vows about anything even if what we have just left is in every way bad and we are committed to not repeating similar situations and dynamics.

Navigating this stage well requires that we marshal our emotional and energetic resources and bring them to bear in the present moment. It also requires that we maintain consciousness of what has just happened, what is now going on now, and what we need to take care of ourselves in the present moment now that everything has changed and we no longer have the supports that were in place in our lives. The next stage is where we begin to reconnect with our feelings about what has happened and how it affects us and so detachment in this stage turns out to be an important asset if we are to take care of the necessary details in the moment. If we can maintain detachment and prevent ourselves from being in shock and becoming emotionally vacant or absent, we will get the basic necessities of the moment met and be able to move on to the next stage.

Stage Five: Rage

The cultural transmission of the Lilith story is that this stage is the end of her journey. She is said to react with rage to the deaths of her children. The myth as we have received it says that Lilith then sets out to hurt children and men in order to avenge her children's deaths and get back at God and Adam for what they have done to her. The cultures in which we have been raised have told us that to live a life like Lilith automatically ends in anger and rage. We have taken this in even to the point of at times fearing for our lives when we consider living Lilith themes out loud.

Lilith is said to be a threat to children who are not protected, which is said to come in the form of having a blessing made over them or the wearing of an amulet with the names of the three angels sent to Lilith with the message of God. This is supposed to be a reaction both to the deaths of her children and that the deal God made with her to protect children has been made null and void. Otherwise unexplained infant

deaths have at various times been attributed to Lilith. She is said to be on the lookout for opportunities to avenge the deaths of her own children and will not hesitate to kill unprotected infants.

Lilith's threat to men comes in the form of seduction. She is said to come to men who sleep alone (a way of saying those who are not married) and, while they dream, trick them into wasting their semen – a succubus, in other words. There are strict parameters in Judaism about the wasting of semen and Lilith has been made into an enemy in this regard. Again, the natural processes of the body are overlooked and a demon made of the natural feminine, even when manifest in the natural processes of the male body. It is not a malfunction of the character to experience nocturnal emission but a normal expression of biological cycles at various times during a man's life.

We can get stuck in this stage by choosing to act from our anger in destructive ways. As the cultural line says that if you are going to be Lilith or live one of her stories you will end up raging, it is imperative that we learn to do something with our anger other than lash out with an intention to get back at those who hurt us or whomever else happens to be around us. Anger is a natural reaction to the treatment that Lilith and us-as-Lilith have received so far in this story – what has unfolded as a result of the previous stages of the archetypal process. But anger is always rooted in pain and we need to understand that reacting as Lilith by carrying anger and throwing it at others to avenge the wrongs done to us simply perpetuates cycles of anger and pain. It does not get to the core of the pain so that it can be healed but generates wounding and injuring scenarios among people who fundamentally misunderstand what is truly happening.

In other words, we get stuck in this stage when we meet anger with anger and violence with violence. The feminism born in the early 1970s gives us an example of this. After millennia of suppression, women began standing up with their fists raised in the air, shaking them at the masculine establishment and its unfair and abusive philosophies and practices. Anger, however, cannot heal pain. Only compassion can do that. If we insist on being angry and not moving through a healing – forgiving and releasing – process, we can get stuck in this stage. It affects our relationships detrimentally and our limits our willingness to give and receive love, and it affects our health in negative ways.

Navigating this stage well requires that we recognize the feelings we have and commit to doing something constructive with them. We have to turn our anger into something else. Above all, we have to choose our next step as something other than engaging in battle with those who have hurt us. If we choose not to consider ourselves victims then we can take the fire within and direct it as we choose as passion. But it is critical that we learn to come out of deciding that the treatment we have received is meaningful – such as in seeing the world or God or the Universe as working against us because the wild, feminine energy we carry and embody is not welcome in a particular scenario. We have to ensure that we are not creating meaning that will keep us in pain and inspired to act from anger and hurt others who have hurt us.

Stage Six: Grieving and Mourning

This is the first stage of the nine that I add to this process. It is here that we can begin to rewrite how Lilith stories work, how they turn out, and what we will experience if we allow the natural wild within us room to breathe and be an active, accepted, and loved part of us.

As mentioned above, all rage points to and covers over pain. At this stage in the process we have to be willing to feel the pain behind the rage that we experienced in Stage Five. While rage can seem to consume us, grief can seem to threaten to overwhelm us if we were to open the door to deal with it. Yet we must. If we are to heal – and come out of living Lilith stories as a demonic figure – we need at this point to surrender any identity as victim, oppressed, and downtrodden that we may have developed or picked up along the way. To move the emotional energy required in the grieving process we must choose to let go of the ideas of ourselves as deserving of abuse and oppression as well as those that hold that we are hapless victims or unjustly accused. We have to face the feelings of pain that we are carrying and do all we can to avoid attaching meaning to them, as this will only inspire certain parts of us to react with venom to those who have wronged us.

In this stage we can connect deeply with a sense of being a victim but, again, we have to ensure that we are not feeding that thought construct and making it more meaningful than it should be. The feelings can here come into conscious awareness and be felt directly, and perhaps be described clearly, too. Talking through things is important here if it is done in a spirit of understanding and moving through the feelings to a place of acceptance and compassionate surrender to what needs to be done in the moment to care for the self in order to heal and move on.

Whether we chose to leave or felt forced to go, and whether the punishment was direct or indirect, we have by now experienced a loss. It is important to open to experience and observe the deep undercurrents of pain we might have collected from feeling dominated or threatened by those to whom we are the most deeply connected (likely family and partners) and by being forced to leave or choosing to leave. This stage is the one in which we spend time with the feelings behind the obvious feelings. It is here that we accept that we have lost something and if it appears to be our self-respect and self-confidence, we need to nurse ourselves back to feeling strong enough to love and take care of ourselves no matter what. The sense of loss can be deep and all-consuming at first, and so this stage naturally takes time to move through. Navigating this stage well requires that we first adjust to the reality of the feelings – admit to them to ourselves. Then we need to open to actually feel them and then learn to adjust to the senses of loss and betrayal that we might have and move through them without attaching victimization-related meaning to them.

Stage Seven: Accepting Responsibility

As long as we blame others for what has happened to us, an attitude of victimhood can follow. We cannot hope to heal anything if we do not take responsibility for what has occurred. This is not to say that we should accept that we are wrong to be who we are and should be punished for it. This instead has to do with understanding the spiritual principle that we draw events, situations, relationships, and dynamics to us that provide us with the experiences that we need in order to learn what our souls set out to learn during life. This level of awareness is predicated on a willingness to have a measure of faith that things happen to us for a reason and yet that reason is not about punishing us but about helping us grow into being the best version of ourselves that we can be. We need also to accept that growth does not happen in a vacuum; that we need others to cocreate our learning with us and that at times that cocreation is difficult to experience.

In this stage we look realistically at what has happened in terms of it being necessary to making us who we are now. It is not a matter of lying to ourselves about

our lives and histories but about understanding that all that happens to us serves the journey that we are on. This is not to do specifically with Lilith but with the human experience in general: the soul signs up to live a number of themes during a series of human lives.[14] While a wide range of experiences fit with each theme for which we sign up, our choices – which are informed by our beliefs – determine the qualities of the situations and dynamics fitting with the themes that we draw to us and to which we find ourselves drawn.

As long as we believe that things have happened to us and that others have done things to us – that we have not created them – we exist in a state of disempowerment. Healing as a Lilith figure requires that we at some point take responsibility for all that has happened to us, even the most difficult aspects of learning about being a Lilith figure through contentious or abusive family, sexual, and relationship dynamics. This can be extremely difficult but is a necessary part of the process.

We can become stuck in this stage when we cling to the meaning that our experiences from the past seemed to have. If we avoid looking at ourselves as the cocreators of our experiences then we fail to see that what they taught us has been valuable. How many times have you looked back on a situation years later and seen clearly that it taught you something valuable about you that you needed to see? Each of us has had this experience. In this stage of the process it is time to accelerate that "20/20 hindsight" phenomenon and learn in the moment to see the value of the experience that has just unfolded as a necessary learning tool for our experience on Earth.

Navigating this stage well rests on withdrawing blame from all those who have hurt us. This can be eased by looking at those people as faces of the Divine just as we are and accepting that they are trying to learn the right ways to live just as we are. Even when someone else has intentionally hurt us we need to see that they felt they were doing the best thing either for themselves or for you. Choosing to go through this process heals us by sealing energy leaks in our fields because we are choosing to take an empowered stance when it comes to what has happened to us – we are no longer giving or surrendering our own strength because it seemed that someone else was stronger than us (and might still be).

Stage Eight: Recommitting to What's Important

After all that has happened by this point in the process, we have to take some time to get clear about what is important to us. At each stage of the archetypal process we can be distracted and/or lead off course from it: the tension of argument in Stage Two, the necessity of being on the go in Stage Three, and the need to keep our emotions at bay in Stage Four, etc. In Stage Eight we turn the focus to what is happening within and around us and we recommit to directing our energies and passions down constructive avenues and toward productive ends.

These avenues and ends should reflect what is most important to us. Following the process of feeling disempowered because of a family, relationship, sexual, or other dynamic and moving through the process of healing it as described above, we have by this point accepted that those who come out as Lilith figures are sometimes met with resistance and poor treatment. We have also by now chosen to accept responsibility for our role in the unfolding of life lessons and growth in our lives, releasing others from the perception that they have wronged us and surrendering the identity as victim that we might have carried for many years as a result of what we experienced. Now we are in the position to accept the realities of how Lilith stories unfold in human life

and – given all that we have learned and know – recommit to what we want to make of ourselves and the world around us.

Those who live Lilith stories can become conditioned to withdraw from society and relationship in order to cease being made wrong for being just exactly who they are. This is the part of the process when we are challenged to imagine a place for ourselves in the world to be Lilith and to live authentically even if others are made uncomfortable by the energies we carry and how we live. It is necessary that we each become willing to develop a vision of how to be Lilith in and bring Lilith to the world around us. Given the comments earlier in this book about Lilith's role as connecting us to nature because she reminds us that we ourselves are extensions of it, reimagining a place for ourselves as Lilith in the world or our community is critically important for us as a species now and, in fact, for the entire ecosystem that is the Earth itself. At this stage of the process we have ideally left behind the judgments of others for being afraid of the wild, nature, and the feminine and chosen compassion for the fact that we are all in one way or another trying to deal with the reality of the imbalance between masculine and feminine that has been the bread and butter of patriarchal life for 6,000 years. Additionally we have made a decision to be part of the solution through forgiveness. Through this, we give ourselves permission to become passionate again about who we are and what we have to offer. But this process is internal. As you will see in the final stage of the archetype (below), there is a time when it is right to take ourselves back out into the world and be precisely who we are for our own reasons and in our own ways. But in Stage Eight – before we step out again and return the world – we need to ensure that we have healed the painful experiences from our past that left us feeling oppressed and abused and come into the present moment to choose again to live as exactly who we are on all levels.

We can become stuck in this stage by holding on to a belief that we should not bother trying to be in the world. From our experiences and observations of others' experiences it may seem that there is no place for Lilith and no one should try to be authentic. This is a bitter place to be that fuels the leaking of energy and a general state of disempowerment. Another way to become stuck here is to edit what is most important to us for any reason. Perhaps we will come up with something that we sort of wish to do out in the world but chose it because it seems like a safe thing to do, something that will not stir up anti-Lilith sentiment in others. Continuing to accept how we are wired at this stage invites us to be real about what kind of world we want to live in and what kind of figure we wish to be in that world.

Navigating this stage well involves ensuring that no anger is floating around in our fields that will prevent us from focusing and directing our creative energies as we wish. We have to choose to have faith that our desires and self-conceptions matter precisely because they matter to us. We have to release all others from the perceptions held in place for perhaps decades or lifetimes that have kept us from feeling free to be who we are. Success in Stage Eight means adhering to total and utter honesty about who we are and choosing to have faith that since we are here – born on Earth and wired the ways that we are – there is a purpose that serves the collective and that offers us the chance to do something meaningful with our energy, time, and passion.

Stage Nine: Re-entering the World

In this last stage of the archetypal Lilith process, we choose to return to our community or we choose to find or create a new one for ourselves. We return both healed of past perceptions of oppression and abuse and ready to meet with confidence

and compassion others' fear of the wild. When we choose to again engage with others as a Lilith figure after what came before in this process, it is from a new place – we are rooted with new footing and new resolve.

The word "resolve" as a noun, if introduced earlier in the process, might have referred to having made a decision to steel oneself against injustice or unfair treatment or maybe against other people or the world as embodying something negative. Here the word "resolve" is about choosing to embody a way of being and, perhaps, a course of action. It is an affirmative choice based in understanding, acceptance, and compassion. The healing process to get to this point will enable any of us as Lilith figures to accept the realities of how we as a collective have created the world and why, which leads to making peace with the landscape in which we find ourselves. Re-entering the world in this stage is a statement that we are ready to deal with the culturally-imprinted fear of the wild in proactive, productive ways. It means committing to leaving behind conflict that is meant to keep someone, the self, or others down. At the same time, it means agreeing to experience some tension with others as they are confronted by the energies and consciousness we bring that might make their conditioned selves nervous.

The wisdom of the natural world that Lilith brings is satisfying to inhabit. We feel more whole, more in our bodies, more present, and more "with it" as humans when we admit Lilith's wisdom and perspective and factor it into our lives. We function more as whole beings that respect ourselves and honor the truth of a given situation as we experience it. In this stage of the archetypal process we set out to be in the world exactly who we are without apology and reservation; without shyness, shame, or regret. We know before we even set out to do that the truth that other people might not always know how to handle us and what we bring to the table. We accept that the vast majority of people have been trained to fear the wild but that since we cannot help but honor the wild within us and therefore inhabit it in the world, they must need exposure to it as part of their learning journeys as souls living human lives.

As the end of the process and our ultimate destination on this journey to recapture and embody Lilith, there is no way to get stuck. That is to say that if all the previous stages were approached consciously and moved through, there is waiting for us this space of willing openness to be who we are and to engage with others without judgment and without seeding or buying into unnecessary conflict or power over-power under games of any kind. It is not to say that we cannot backpedal and at times revert to anger or bitterness in the face of poor treatment, but once we reach Stage Nine we have the ability to see all of what can be seen about the realities of living Lilith stories in this kind of world. We have also developed all the tools necessary to get back to Stage Nine, and we are all invited to be kind to ourselves and not judge if we do take a few steps back now and then. Compassion for self and other is, as explained above, critical to healing Lilith issues and living her stories in sane, balanced, healthy, compassionate ways.

Successfully navigating this stage requires remaining conscious and open, compassionate and communicative, and in touch with who you are as a human and who others are as humans. It means respecting the fact that you may find yourself in the minority a great deal if not all of the time and accepting others' fear as a reflection of the history and success of the patriarchy. It also means respecting the fact that your commitment and resolve to live Lilith's energy in healthy, responsible ways is a reflection of the beginning of the death throes of the patriarchy as it has existed within

you and the world surrounding you.

Moving through this process will unfold differently for any who go about it because of the uniqueness of the variables informing a person's need to go through it. Again, there is no judgment to be assigned about the timing and no shame or regret about passing back and forth between stages when it happens. Each person looking at this process for themselves will need to approach it in the spirit of taking care of and healing the self after years or lifetimes of misunderstanding. Compassion is necessary.

Three Liliths and One Eve

There is a topic critical to explore before we get into interpretations of the true Black Moon Lilith's configuration in the natal chart. This is where we begin to transition out of looking at culture, history, myth, and archetype and into the astrology of Lilith.

Above I mentioned that what I call the "three Liliths warning" is what first put me on the trail to look into what was going on with this mysterious archetype of which we are supposed to be afraid. After working with it in many charts, I have some comments on the three Liliths that are either used or explored in astrological circles.

The Dark Moon

My intuition for a long time kept me from exploring this. I still cannot at this point concede that we should use a body not only that we cannot see but that no one has ever seen and remains theoretical. For me that at this stage it would seem to cross a line about reality and practicality as if we consider that light reflected from the planets imprints us, it gives me trouble to accept that a body we have not seen is imprinting us with the light of the Sun. The true Black Moon is a point and not a body – so it is not reflecting light – but as you will read below, no one has said that it is real but not yet seen. There are astrologers over the years who have devoted considerable time to working with the Dark Moon in horoscopes and so someone obviously thinks there must be something there! (Or, they think there *should* be something there.) I encourage you to explore this if it speaks to you but don't try hard to find or supply meaning in it if it doesn't come naturally – don't force it.

It was proposed by astrologer Walter Gorn Old (a.k.a. Sepharial) in 1918. My sense is that calling a unseen second Moon Lilith served from the bird's eye view of human and social evolution to get Lilith's name and myth reintroduced into our awareness but in a slow, gentle, unsurprising way. Having the name re-enter our astrological vocabulary but attached to a hypothetical astrological body could have served to facilitate the beginning of a gentle remembering of Lilith's themes, prompting us to open the door to understanding what Lilith represents without the social implications of an informed populace demanding respect as Lilith that might follow the asteroid coming into awareness or the rollercoaster of emotion accompanying overt consciousness of the true BML. In other words, my sense is that the Dark Moon Lilith – as a theoretical astrological body no one has ever seen – offered early in the 20th century a route into the very beginning of Lilith's themes rising to the surface of our collective consciousness in order to heal and evolve as humans as a species by reaccepting the natural, wild feminine in all its forms.

The Women's Suffrage movement that had been brewing for decades in Western countries saw marked success at the end of World War I in a number of countries. That movement represents Lilith themes on a grand, social level and did usher in the advent of a recognition of a level of self-confidence women were now legally protected in having, including having the right to participate in the unfolding of the social contract.

To my mind this movement represents a first stage of Lilith themes – including equality and gender parity – coming to the surface in an undeniable way with many feeling empowered to do something about it. There was a particular chemistry of time and place that lead to the successes along the way, and they reflect a large-scale level of empowerment for women that was a first step in a long process. It is as if Lilith was legislated back into the social landscape after millennia of absence

and all women began to benefit, even as much more remained to be done in order to effectively heal and erase the punishment that Lilith suffered at the hands of her god because she refused to return to Adam as his submissive. Gorn Old proposed the Dark Moon in 1918 and it seems that he was in touch at least energetically with the Suffrage Movement coming to a head in numerous Western societies.

I liken the historical effect the Dark Moon had to some of the reasons that people are drawn to use and trust the mean position of the Black Moon Lilith, as discussed below.

The Asteroid Lilith (1181)

I have found this asteroid can tell a great deal about an individual's experience of the collective reality surrounding Lilith and her themes. I see it strong and active in those who advocate for those living Lilith themes in the form of social causes, including various sorts of feminists and other activists focused on what we might call the "plight of the feminine" whether in the form of women or nature. I've worked with some artists and social workers with this asteroid prominent, either expressing through creativity the Lilith-themed experiences of society and others or inhabiting the role of advocate to serve those who find themselves living Lilith themes in damaging ways.

There are many bodies in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter and various astrologers have explored a number of them. Because it is one of many bodies there and because there is a precedent for dealing with and understanding asteroids, I see this Lilith as easier for us in many ways to deal with than the osculating apogee (below). As with the Dark Moon, Asteroid 1181 allows us to approach the themes of Lilith stories and realities in a somewhat detached way. If not intellectual way, certainly a way that is more detached from the personal and personalized emotional roller-coaster intensity and primal rawness of the true Black Moon or osculating apogee.

In other words, the visceral emotional experience associated with the true Black Moon is lacking here. We can through the asteroid in a natal chart understand how a person might be inclined to approach Lilith issues and realities on a scale in some way larger than and beyond that of the individual. We will also be able to see how the person understands him- or herself in terms of the larger social realities of groups of people living Lilith themes. We will be able through this asteroid's configuration to see how a person responds to Lilith issues such as relationship parity and social equality and how that person either avoids these realities, fights the system, or attempts to become part of the solution. Through experience of the asteroid Lilith in our charts we can verbalize a response to the themes of oppression, suppression, abuse, and rape, while with the osculating apogee we feel these themes in a visceral way that precludes intelligible verbalization. Through the asteroid Lilith it is easy to become and remain angry about social injustice toward women, minorities of various kinds, and the socially, sexually, and economically oppressed and that anger can lead to definitive action. Action is important but those who find themselves angry need to learn to evolve beyond anger and move through the archetypal stages of Lilith completely. Acting from a state of grounded, calm commitment to justice is incalculably more effective in terms of the health of individuals and groups and the fact that while anger sometimes makes us heard finally, it never makes us received well and understood.

As an example of this asteroid, mine is in Sagittarius in the 3rd house, conjunct Jupiter in Capricorn also in the 3rd. It was when Pluto transited over the asteroid that I

began to see Lilith issues clearly. I have the true Black Moon conjunct my natal Moon, though, so Lilith themes figure prominently in my life and always have but I had never before been able to see through the emotions I and others carried. For most of my life I had known my emotions to be at times roller-coaster like in nature but couldn't get a handle on how to work with them prior to learning about and working with Lilith. Getting to know the asteroid during the handful of years that Pluto transited over it allowed me to ideate, conceptualize, and articulate what was going on related to Lilith in the world around me, and this afforded me the opportunity to learn to ground the intense emotional responses due to the true Black Moon's conjunction to my natal Moon. My response to the collective issues I am aware of is to write and teach (asteroid 1181 in Sagittarius in the 3rd conjunct Jupiter in Capricorn in 3rd) in order to communicate what is really going on with this situation and how it can be remedied.

This asteroid offers us an opportunity to get closer to Lilith themes through being aware of them in the world around us and understanding how we fit in to those social realities. But it does not offer a direct experience of the visceral truth of Lilith, how we live her themes, and what we can do to process our experience and learn from them in grounded, mature ways before moving on through the stages of the archetype.

As you read the rest of this book, keep in mind that you can apply much of what is written about the true BML to the asteroid but through the lens of being aware of social and cultural realities instead of the direct, raw, primal emotional lens referred to many times in the text. Lilith themes are Lilith themes and you will be able to make sense of how to understand and use asteroid 1181 through modifying slightly how you read the interpretations of the true BML here.

The Black Moon: Mean vs. True

This point comes in two flavors: the mean position and the osculating apogee or true position of the Black Moon Lilith (BML). I use the latter in my practice and the astrological interpretations you will find in the rest of this book are based on this point.

But first, let's get into the mean BML, since it is the most widely used Lilith today in astrological circles. There are several reasons why it is preferred and the body of astrological work done on Lilith over the last few decades has been focused primarily on this calculation. It is derived from averaging the true position over a number of days. The reasons cited for preferring its use include that the motion of the true BML is highly erratic and yet it is the erratic nature of its movement that aligns it so closely with the primal nature of the Lilith archetype. In the early days of my exploration and research regarding Lilith, the work of astrologer Juan Antonio Revilla proved very useful. It is his argument that the erratic nature of the Lilith archetype is the exact reason why the osculating apogee should be used that began my process of understanding Lilith years ago.

The mean BML is readily available and this is another reason it is used so widely: as astrologers explore a new body in birth charts, they will tend to pick up, play with, and explore what is most readily available. There are many intelligent people making cogent and cogent-seeming arguments out there about why the true BML should and should never be used. For me, the proof of the appropriateness of a body in astrological analysis rests in how well my clients respond to it. I count accuracy and efficacy of interpretation as it relates to people's lives always trumping an idea that a point or body should or should not be used or included.

The positions of the mean and true BMLs in a chart can vary up to 30 degrees, so

it always was clear to me that there was an undeniable difference between the two. When I first explored Lilith in charts I used the mean and true positions side by side to test them and I was getting nowhere with people when it came to the mean position. Or, more accurately, I was getting foggy reactions from them as I tried to have conversations with them about Lilith and her themes based in the mean position of the BML in their charts. That was very different from when I began talking about the placement and configuration of the true BML. This commonly elicited immediate and deep emotional responses. Even if these emotions were not given weight or verbalized by my clients, they were very clearly real and present. It was through using the mean and true positions side by side – seeing one contribute to a hazy feeling about Lilith and the other that cut deeply into something very meaningful – that I came to see the rich terrain waiting for anyone who wanted to take the true BML seriously.

The mean position seems to me more accepted in part because we have not known what to do with the natural, wild feminine beyond the patriarchal edict that it is to be suppressed or edited in whatever forms in which it appears. We have not, in other words, made ourselves available to see the value in the true BML. When we approach a new body or point in astrological interpretation we will inevitably carry with us our cultural attitudes and biases and they will for a time serve as blind spots while we seek to try to open our minds to a new astrological vocabulary word and integrate it. Many of these biases have been held subconsciously and unfolded in our lives without conscious awareness, and so we can be at risk of thinking of a new archetype in old ways without even realizing it. This is natural and normal and yet I encourage us all to allow ourselves to open to new messages and to view them through fresh eyes whenever possible and in whatever ways we can. It is after all true that when a body is discovered and named, it is time for the collective to take in what the associated archetype has to offer and it always brings new information and new perspectives on ourselves and our world.

From Juan Antonio Revilla on the osculating apogee:

> The orbit through time constitutes a series of oscillations around an average or "mean" slowly evolving Keplerian ellipse. This would be the equivalent of the Mean Black Moon or barycentric mean lunar apogee. The osculating apogee represents the actual trajectory of the Moon as it actually is at a given instant. We can think of it as a *ghost image* that the Moon carries with it all the time. This ghost image represents a sort of ideal, an "ideal future" when the Moon is (or will be) at apogee, but it keeps changing or evolving as the Moon travels through space.
>
> We can also think of the perigee, the north and south nodes, and the empty second focus of the orbit in the same way: they all represent idealized focal points or "directions" that are a result of the "psychic projections" of the Moon, they are *Moon ghosts* that the Moon always carries with it, that are part of the "lunar structure" of every individual. The Moon represents the present moment, the nodes, apsides, and empty focus represent the past and "look forward" psychic projections that give shape and structure to the lunar dynamics of a person's life. They are like the rooms, passages and corridors of a house (the different parts of the orbit) that become projections of the person who inhabits it (the Moon).

> Some people think that an osculating orbit is something too artificial or unreal, and call the use of the osculating lunar apogee or Black Moon "nonsense," "close to nonsense," "makes no sense at all," etc. The main reasons usually given for this are 1) the large difference (of up to 30 degrees) between the mean and osculating value of the lunar apogee, 2) the fact that this osculating value "can travel to places where the Moon will never go" (see how amazingly significant this is in psychological and psychic terms!), and 3) its erratic changes of direction and velocity, which for some it means it cannot be really called "a motion" at all.
>
> But I have always insisted that it is precisely all that what makes the symbolism of the osculating apogee/Black Moon so powerful. It doesn't matter at all that its motion is erratic: *it doesn't have to move like a planet because it is not a planet!* ... this brings it symbolically closer to all the neglected psychical projections of the Moon, both positively and negatively. The osculating Black Moon, representing the constantly changing shape of the lunar orbit is a very good fit to the organic, instinctual nature of Black Moon symbolism.[15]

So what is this osculating apogee? Revilla says that it is the "actual trajectory of the Moon as it is … at a given instant." It is a point determined by the orbital relationship between the Moon and the Earth. It indicates a potential in a moment and that potential, we know, will in fact change a moment later, just as can and do our emotions. This will be explored in more detail in the chapter on the True Black Moon in Transit below but for now, please understand that it is not a planet or a body that we can see in the sky but a function of the Moon's orbit around the Earth that is all about momentary change.

When it comes to looking at our experience of the feminine and its diminishment and suppression, then, looking in new ways and with fresh eyes at Lilith is absolutely critical. To understand our actual experience of living this archetype, we must leave behind our culturally-inherited ideas of Lilith as the mother of all demons with not much else to say about her. But there is an important point to make here that should give us permission to forgive much of the debris following how our narrow and unfair treatment of Lilith and those who represent her: *We have not been ready to open to feel and ultimately process the deep cache of anger that the true BML can represent.*

The story of Lilith as it has been handed down ends in the fact that Lilith is angry and seeks vengeance for having been hurt. So there is some sort of acknowledgement that there is anger associated with Lilith but what we have been prone to do with Lilith figures is cast them out directly or make life so unbearable that they leave seemingly of their own accord. All of that not even to mention the burning at stakes, hanging, stoning, raping, torturing, flaying, and other abusive and fatal responses to the wild feminine that we have trafficked in for thousands of years. If we were not ready now, this work would not have come through me and found such a receptive audience in the women and men with whom I work to heal their histories of having lived Lilith stories. If we were not ready now, you would not be reading this book.

We were first able to calculate the osculating apogee in 1992. Astronomers had not ever had need to know of where the true Black Moon really is before then. I feel this to be an interesting statement regarding our collective relationship with reconnecting with the wild feminine. They simply had no reason to work with it before then. I perceive this is because we as a collective had previously not been

open to learning about and experience a conscious relationship with the wild feminine within us in healthy ways that take responsibility for our millennia of experiences of suppression, oppression, and sexual violence and the feelings that result and that are carried in our bodies to this day.

If what you have read here about the osculating apogee or true Black Moon makes sense to you, you are in the minority but certainly not alone. Using the true BML makes the statement that one is ready to learn about the wild feminine from the inside out. I encourage you to check your results using the mean and true positions and make the switch if the true BML is new for you. This section has been primarily intended to explore my reasoning for using the true over the mean position. We will get more into what the true BML is in the chapter on transits of Lilith.

The Story of Eve

In the archetype section above, I left out what happened to Adam after Lilith left him and was punished by God for not returning to be his submissive. Now is the time to share that story because it is telling about another reason the mean position of the BML is so readily accepted and the true position so often overlooked.

After Lilith wouldn't come back to him, Adam appealed to God with a complaint of loneliness. God decided to create another mate for Adam. This time, however, it would have to be someone who would never assert equality – God couldn't have Adam, his avowed greatest creation (the most wonderful being aside from his Divine self according to these traditions), lonely and having any excuse to whine about it, after all! God then created a woman out of a piece of Adam's body, his rib. Eve is the mate God created, and we all know this story inside and out, hearing that she is the first woman and mate of Adam.

Eve is compliant and the acceptable sort of mate for Adam, but then of course everything changes with the business of eating that apple. But it is important to understand that because of the circumstances surrounding her genesis, Eve will never stand up to Adam and assert equality. She will never value her own opinion over Adam's, and she will never refuse Adam's sexual advances because her body tells her not to engage in intercourse for one reason or another. She will in fact never insist that there be something like a rule about him not always being on top. In short, she will never assert equality, expect to be treated as an equal, expect to be allowed to make decisions for herself, nor feel that she should be allowed to honor herself in ways that do not conform to Adam's conception and expectations of her.

> *Eve was introduced to be the patriarchal version of what kind of woman is acceptable and what kind of femininity will be supported in a woman's expression. Yet Eve is an artificial construct: she is a man's idea of what a woman should be.*

Eve is a plasticized version of woman. She is not merely watered down or in some way reduced. She is fundamentally *not* naturally feminine precisely because she is edited; she is not whole. In order to remain acceptable to her man and his idea of what a woman should be Eve is pliable and, perhaps worst of all, she does not really even know who she is outside of her relationship with Adam. Archetypally (as we live Eve's story) Eve always asks if her idea of herself is acceptable to a man. She wonders how much expression of who she knows she really is will be okay to bring out.

When it comes to the difference between using the mean and true BMLs, I ask how much can a blow-up doll or a Barbie tell you about a woman? The mean BML in

my mind is inert, a plaything, a blow-up doll just waiting to be acted upon whenever it suits a man to do so. This averaged calculation of the Black Moon's motion is astrology's Eve, a masculine-based mind's idea of what an appropriate exploration of the feminine should look like.

This might sound harsh but it relays the vast difference in quality of information gained from the use of the mean and true BMLs. If you want to know what a woman is thinking, feeling, what a woman is like, don't ask a blow-up doll. Don't ask Barbie. *Ask a woman.*

The true BML is the equivalent of an actual, living and breathing woman. In my research and practice I have found the mean BML utterly useless. I believe it will tell you nothing of value and I recommend, obviously, not only not using it (in case it wasn't clear from the above!) but also teaching people as often as you can about using the true BML, which will in fact yield useful results that open countless doors to healing the deep issues that actual humans carry about living and being responded to as Lilith figures. The mean BML can function for us as a placeholder for Lilith issues while not having to deal with the intense emotions and deep pain that accompany our experience of the true BML. The true BML allows us to acknowledge our raw feelings and anger and begin to transform that anger, which is the process of healing deep pain.

The smoothed-over version of woman, the doll, is what is many cultures transmit to us as the best of the feminine. It is what men are supposed to want in women and what women are supposed to want to be and see when they look in the mirror, though of course this can never truly be the case. *The embodied, visceral, raw consciousness of Lilith has undergone an attempt to be edited out of women but women cannot survive emotionally thus fractured.* This editing of course could never have succeeded fully, so there have been specific corners of societies which are reserved for Lilith women. They include the sex trade, the occult, and certain forms of competitive sport.

When Eve was installed as the acceptable model of woman in the patriarchal world, Lilith within each and every woman did not go away. It was just that she became unacceptable, banished to the fringe or forced into leaving by those running things. Women were taught to want to become one side of themselves and to shame, vilify, and demonize another part. Because Lilith could not be edited out of the human psyche but also was not welcome in much of society, human expression of her began to come out in distorted ways. The sex trade is one place where Lilith is more or less (at least at certain times) welcome to come out, and in the occult and competitive sport it is also acceptable to have women live out certain Lilith-inspired aspects of self.

Lilith Remains Real

It's not just that women need to be Lilith – men need to know and be with Lilith. The visceral embodied experience with each other is what all beings crave when they are not blocked from being whole by trauma or the edicts of mind, family, religion, and culture. As the masculine mindset has determined that natural feminine sexuality is not socially acceptable and that individual women must not be publicly supported in – and in fact publicly blocked from – knowing who they are as creatively sexual beings, individual men have not been able to help craving knowing the wild in the form of women. A man is supposed to want to bring Eve home to meet his parents but he craves to know and be with Lilith. He can't help it – Lilith is his natural other half.

Those corners of society reserved for raw sexuality and instinctive consciousness and physicality are populated by women who know they are free to be all of themselves while full of men (usually as consumers) who revel in the chance to get to be around Lilith. The circumstances are controlled – meaning that Lilith the demon is not free to do whatever she pleases whenever she wants – but there is nevertheless space for men and women to explore raw approaches to sexuality and other forms of physicality which, of course, are always pointing toward sexuality.

The rise of pornography addiction on a global scale reflects the imbalance between masculine and feminine engendered by the patriarchy. We have heard through media of some kinds – sometimes obliquely – that this is an issue for many on the planet. We have not, however, heard a full explication of how damaging it can be to individuals, families, and communities. As long as people feel trapped in social and sexual roles that deny the existence of Lilith and the wild, natural feminine, issues surrounding pornography addiction and its effects will continue to intensify.

In patriarchal culture, to be the right sort of man a man is expected to marry Eve and stay away from Lilith. You've no doubt heard comments – whether from people you know or through media of various kinds – about the kind of girls/women you bring home to meet your mother and those you don't. Fulfilling patriarchal social expectations handed down through religious and family contexts creates suppression of natural sexuality because a woman who believes herself to be Eve cannot be fully present in a relationship because her natural sense of self has been edited into some level of compliance. She has come to think of herself as the control-based, masculine mind thinks of her and – perhaps most damaging of all – she has come to believe that it is how she is supposed to be.

When I talk about the wild with clients regarding Lilith's themes they sometimes reflect to me the fear many of us have of being out of control. This fear is magnified out of all proportion in many people now because honoring any natural process has been taught to be wrong and the build-up of pressure within us to behave in ways that reflect how we are naturally wired threatens to explode if it does anything at all.

When we consider being true to ourselves we are confronted with the suppression and distortion that has been mounting for 6,000 years about who we are versus who we should be. If we allow Lilith to come to the surface and honor all of her themes within us, we are not in fact out of control – *we are simply out of the control of the mind and the stifling, unnatural, and inauthentic containers it creates for us to live in and through*. Living this way, our bodies inform us constantly: *This person is right for me. This food doesn't work for me. I need to be alone right now. I can't make love with you right now.* With Lilith fully present in us we find ourselves confident

and sure about who we are in a given moment and what needs and wants to be done.

The imbalance between masculine and feminine that defines the patriarchy and all the instruction we have absorbed from it is based on denying the body in favor of the mind. This creates distorted views of and relationships to sexuality because what is natural is perpetually dishonored in favor of an idea of how things should be.

The prevalence of sexual violence during the patriarchy also needs to be discussed. All sexual violence reflects the cultural sickness of the imbalance between masculine and feminine. Each individual choosing to act in ways that results in such violence is responsible for his or her choices and yet we additionally need to recognize that we as a collective are in the main suppressed when it comes to natural expressions of instinctive sexuality. Due to the realities human biology – which evidences that we are still in fact animals – it is possible that long-term, monogamous partnership that has been the socially-accepted form of relationship in the form of religion-sponsored marriage during the patriarchy might not enable the actual needs of humans to be met.

Marriage in its current form is a reflection of the patriarchal control over the natural sexuality of women. Monogamy and the vows and rules attached to it when it becomes state-sanctioned marriage of course offers the chance to deepen into relationship with another over time and yet it cannot provide the incubator for spiritual and karmic growth that humans need in order to explore in order to progress along our journeys as Divine Intelligence learning what it means to be human. We are emotionally attached to the security that marriage seems to offer as well as the sense of ownership – whether ownership of another person or of the unit that the marriage is – and yet we can through it lose sight of a full and clear picture of who we are as sexual, chemical, physical, hormonal beings. And it is true that this side of us is critical to creating and managing overall – including spiritual – health. Over time we need many different emotional and sexual partners in order to learn what we incarnate to learn because the kind of energetic information exchanged during intimacy cannot be replicated in any other way. We are drawn – attracted – to each other when we are because we need to offer and receive certain pieces of energetic and emotional information that can be shared in any other way. As we have tried to figure out the right way to manage the social, familial, and economic realities of marriage with our inborn desires and the sense of who we are as dynamic spiritual and sexual beings, we have struggled against marriage while we have clung to it. The statistics on divorce can turn anyone off from marriage but what if the truth of those statistics is that we can no longer get away with demonizing and banishing Lilith? What if our natural make up as humans – which is to say as animals who also reason – can no longer be relegated to a small box in order to make certain (patriarchal) philosophers seem to be right about who we are supposed to be?

Not everyone who embraces Lilith will spurn or avoid marriage. Yet the parameters of committed partnership for Lilith must include room to breathe and be just who she is. If that means being open to occasionally being drawn to different partners in order to explore one's own nature, then that needs to happen. If it means committed partners sleeping at times in separate beds so that one or both can get a handle on his or her energy field in order to create better boundaries, be more present in the relationship, and be happier as a person, so be it. And if that means an otherwise-altered definition of togetherness in any way so that one or both partners can deepen his or her relationship to self and experience – and therefore appreciation – of being alive, then this needs to be honored and respected. If Lilith is to be welcomed back

into our lives, marriage and other forms of committed partnership can no longer imbue or imply a sense of ownership of one person over the other or either of them of the relationship itself in order to cling to a sense of safety and security. We have learned all we can learn through 6,000 years of imbalance through such ways of being and we owe it to ourselves now to choose to learn instead through widespread equality, honor, respect, and boundaries that serve all parties in equal measure.

As long as women are told and believe that they shouldn't be who they naturally are and as long as men have to explore the culture's shadows in order to find women willing to be Lilith, marriage for many will continue to feel a drab, little box, the kind of pornography that makes people feel shameful will continue to flourish, and sexual violence in all its forms will proliferate no matter what damaging effects and punishments result. As long as we are afraid to be Lilith while we crave to be and be with her, the imbalance between masculine and feminine that has most of us emotionally, psychologically, physically, and spiritually sick will persist.

The fact that we have cravings outside the bounds of social expectations can bring shame. If we act on them we can then add the dimension of guilt. All natural expressions that do not fit within what are held to be acceptable parameters of the social contract can be denied to the point of fomenting under the surface and becoming the fodder for distortion. It is perplexing to try to understand why a member of the clergy or a teacher would molest a child. On the face of it the perpetrator appears to be the problem as well as the institutions that have vested that individual with authority.

All such individuals are responsible for their behaviors and yet we simply must choose also to see the bigger picture, the bird's-eye view on the distortion our fears about our natural selves have engendered. Lilith has been punished enough for having removed herself from Adam's sphere in order to honor herself and her instincts and natural femininity. As she remains punished to this day, those who feel they are Lilith in some way – those who unthinkingly honor their instinctive sides – find themselves in a difficult position in this world. If we cannot create a way through the morass of social expectations, rules, requirements, and denials to express ourselves naturally and freely and without shame or judgment, issues such as the molestation of children and all other sexual violence will continue. All those who offer and receive sexual violence are acting out the sickness created by the imbalance between masculine and feminine. What will it take for us to wake up to the fact of who we really are and end it? How much more do we have to put ourselves through in order to learn to love ourselves as we are naturally wired? Doing so will change this world forever and help us heal from the collective malaise that breeds all such violence.

At this stage in the minds of many, bringing forth Lilith and allowing her to be present in our lives looks as if it would mean chaos and destruction because we are carrying distorted desires, urges, cravings, and needs and we have been told that instinctive action brings trouble. The fact is that we need to go through a deep process of individual and collective learning about Lilith in the right way – shedding the notion that her primary attribute is as the mother of all demons and aligning with the natural world and honoring ourselves as extensions of it – in order to bring masculine and feminine back into balance. This will require much healing and purging of meaning from past experiences of suppression and related distortion, and that will be healing for individuals and the species as well as the energetic ecosystem that is the Earth as a whole.

The process involves transmuting anger into proactive, constructive activity to

become willing to introduce the natural, wild feminine into our daily lives. Each person undergoing a process to heal Lilith within – and therefore release the imprints and effects of 6,000 years of patriarchy – will find him- or herself confronting hurt and angry parts of the self that have been shaped by feeling stepped on, controlled, abused, judged, and punished for the very fact of having a sexual self and seeking to express it naturally alone and with others. It is not an easy task but, again, the fact that you are holding this book means that we as a collective are beginning to be ready to heal this damaging history. Healing it will take us out of damaging expressions based in distorted perceptions of what it means to be a healthy sexual being and will bring us back to a state of wholeness.

As you reflect on what this material might bring up and mean for you, consider returning to review the nine stages of the archetype. Look at where you are in those stages when it comes to any Lilith-related themes and stories you have lived. They will prove useful in making sure you are not stuck wherever you are while you give yourself time to go through the healing process necessary for all who live in this world as Lilith.

Lilith in the Houses

Houses represent parts of life, where the action of life takes place. All situations and relationships can be filed in one of the 12 houses. The house of a person's true Black Moon Lilith is the arena of that person's life in which she shows up. The energy of the wild feminine and what cannot be controlled will be available to the chart holder in areas of life fitting with his or her true BML placement. These are also the parts of life in which the person will show up as a Lilith figure, bringing something of the status-quo busting wild energy with him or her. When we have experienced suppression and domination as Lilith figures, our house describes where, how, and why. When we can turn around our relationship with the wild within, our true BML house represents the stage on which we can teach others by example how to honor the feminine, the Earth, and the rest of life by coming out of their heads and being exactly who they are.

Lilith in the 1st House

Planets in the 1st house are those we are carrying in our bodies and personalities, even if unaware of it. Correlating to Aries, this house is the house of unmediated being. It is with the sign on the Ascendant, the beginning of the 1st house, and any planets here that we make the perpetual announcement of our existence. The Ascendant represents our style, and the planets in this house tell of energies we have in a sense agreed to carry into the world in the form of our person. I look at planets here as those we've agreed to be living symbols of, manifestations of the energies in bigger and louder and more personal ways than if they were in any other house of the birth chart. Lilith in this house, then, is perhaps her most visible placement.

With Lilith in the 1st house, a person will be a(n often unwitting) symbol of Lilith's experiences and issues. Lilith will inform the body and personality in very direct ways. Often, we gain awareness of planets in the first house by others' reactions to us. In the case of Lilith, this can be what seems a constant stream of rejection for just being who we are, abuse including rape as an attempt to control the native, some form of beating into submission, and a sense of not fitting in anywhere with any group of people. Though this is a general theme of Lilith, her placement in this house makes that theme much more personal and part of an individual's daily life than it would be in any other house.

In matters of health, Lilith here makes the statement that natural and holistic approaches that take into account the natural workings of the body are needed for optimum health. Lilith here promotes an awareness of the body's natural processes, whether we respect those processes and live with a chosen awareness of them or not. Very often, those with Lilith in the 1st house will find something to loathe about the natural state and workings of his or her body. This is a result of being conditioned to withhold total love from self by others who found it difficult to accept the native as he or she is. A Lilith challenge for a native with her in the 1st house is to come to accept what the body is and does, and to understand the body as an extension of nature itself. When this is done, the relationship with the body can be one based in and supportive of self-love and self-empowerment. It will mean developing the courage to go against the commonplace and ever-present advice of others (not to mention any part of common sense wisdom based in old wives' tales about what health involves and requires), and honor the personally-derived messages of the body's reality above ideas of what the body is or should be like.

For a woman with Lilith in the 1st, her relationship with her menstrual cycle is paramount. This is a fundamental process of the body's biological creative function, which is of course procreativity. Lilith's acceptance of the truth of this biological function's purpose is important, as is her awareness of its stability or variation over time, as the body and its needs and cleansing processes adjust to environmental factors including diet, emotions, stress level, and other aspects of lifestyle to which the body may react in order to signal us to modify our behavior. Remaining aware of, and learning to adjust to, the messages of the body that become apparent from any changes in the menstrual cycle is a way to honor and express one's own Lilith with her in the 1st house.

All of us need to get more comfortable dealing with the fact that we're flesh and blood on the inside. Desensitization from exposure to and absorbing of violent imagery in various media is not a Lilith phenomenon. But developing an awareness of the facts of our flesh and blood can take us into the realm of Lilith's lessons for us. When lived, life can get dirty. It happens. *Blood happens*, she seems to say.

In the realm of personality, whether she's expressed or not, she's present. There is a wide range from empowered, honest, unapologetic, and forthright living to quiet, sheepish, reserved, and ashamed or apologetic living. When someone is living the latter part of the range, it can be extremely healing simply to become aware of Lilith and what she's about. People in this category need to learn that there's nothing to be ashamed about; that shame for being who you are is a reaction others' fear. And that if you can't be who you truly are in the open (for fear of negative repercussions), it's not a problem that needs to perpetuate. Much of the healing journey for those with Lilith in the 1st house rests in self-acceptance and learning to honor how the self is put together, including one's needs, concerns, desires and passions.

The internal fire that Lilith refuses to negate in order to fit in rests in the physical bodies of those with her placed in the 1st house. Admitting the passionate nature and finding positive outlets for it are critical. If ways chosen to express this fire reflect self-negating conditioning and self-abuse, a person must come to release the investment in his or her history that says that Lilith figures are bad or evil and should be punished. Healthy sexuality for a native with Lilith in the 1st will involve a self-affirming expression of this fire, which of course can take many forms.

Lilith in the 2nd House

The 2nd is the house of values and worth. At root, it's about survival, and by extension all the things that we need to survive fall into this house. We tend to think of it as the house of money and possessions, but from a different perspective, these are markers for our values and self-worth. Planets in the second house need to prove themselves to themselves. This can take the form of a dedication to (or obsession with) gathering skills and resources (including money and possessions), with the underlying intention being to ensure survival. If you always know where your next meal is coming from, after all, your survival is more assured than those who don't. The 2nd house relates to our values in that we must gear our efforts to reflect our values in order to ensure survival. Ultimately, this house is where we explore what it means to develop self-love, and out of such efforts (or lack of them) comes our self-worth.

With Lilith in the 2nd house, the natural inclination to gather skills, develop consistency and stability to ensure survival, and live in ways that reflect one's positive feelings of self-worth are wrapped up in Lilith's issues, including rejection for one's

natural expression of what is important and being nothing more than who one is.

In general, allowing betrayal from others to condition us to betray ourselves is a maladaptation to life (i.e., "It's clear they don't accept me, so why should I accept myself?"). Yet in the house of self-worth, the rejection of one's value system by, and the withholding of approval from others of what one finds important can lead to terrible and destructive patterns of self-abuse that can, in fact, threaten survival. With Lilith in this house, it's critical that a person learn to take back the power from others regarding the judging of what he or she is worth.

How this can be done will be unique to each individual. Invariably, however, it will involve a realistic self-assessment not based in anything that a native with this placement has heard about him- or herself from others. In other words, those with this placement must experience the self independent of any other factors, and learn to appreciate his or her self, and – and this is important – merely because it is the truth of him or her.

Going off on her own worked for Lilith in terms of self-expression, freedom, and creativity (until the visit from the three angels and the tragedy that followed). She had to do so to maintain her integrity. She had to leave her home, and it wasn't a choice without disruption of her stability. 2nd house Lilith people can take a lesson from this: Even when we have to go off on our own in order to maintain our integrity, we *will* survive, and we *will* develop relationships with other people (and if we're lucky, maybe even hordes of sexy demons) – life is not over if we strike out on our own.

As the house of survival, the 2nd house involves our sexuality. Not the immediacy of expression related to the house of the body, the 1st house, but the impulse to carry on our genetic code and sensual experience. One way to look at this is that procreation is a statement of our values: we're willing to pass on what it is that we are and know, seeding a new generation. Another way to look at this is that it's a house associated with Venus, whose symbol is the cross (manifestation) hanging below the circle (the wholeness of all that is). Venus on this level is about bringing spirit into matter. Our participation in the spinning-wheel process of passing on our human DNA takes place in the 2nd house.

The 2nd house is also the house of sensuality, associated with Venus and Taurus. This is the house where we connect viscerally to the reality of having a body. Not the idea of having a body, but the reality of it – sensory awareness of the physical experience. In this sense, Lilith in this house needs to develop a relationship with the feel of the body, and spend time in the world of all the physical senses. Lilith in the 1st house needs to be aware of the body and its workings as the agent of selfhood (identify as the body), while Lilith in the 2nd needs to be aware of the *feel* of the body and its processes. For a 2nd house Lilith, finding her and integrating the messages she has to offer (and a new level of uncompromised authentic living) will involve honoring the reality of world of sensation, and inhabiting it, recognizing the visceral animal self that resides in all of us.

Lilith's mythology as we have received it paints her as a wild woman, a raging animal out for revenge. The wildness any of us can find when we connect with Lilith inside of us doesn't have to be anti-social or violent, but it does have to be asocial. Lilith's reaction to social restriction (Saturnian expectations of conformity) is not Uranian – anti-rules in being revolutionary or anarchic – but asocial. Asocial as in primal. And with Lilith in the 2nd house, what's called for is a reconnection to the primal energy that is us-as-biological-machine-hell-bent-on-passing-on-our-DNA,

whose only reason to exist is to procreate. Calling Lilith an animal is off the mark. Being primal *is* being human, but in a way that remains connected to all of nature (another Taurus idea), not denying the essence of who we really are (no amount of Capricorn-Virgo conditioning can undo our true nature as part of life as a whole).

Lilith in the 3rd House

The 3rd is the house of opening up to the information that exists all around us. It's here that we allow ourselves to be curious about our environments and the people in it, and where we learn about the world from new and first-hand experience – and where we are changed by what we encounter there. This is the house of gathering and sharing information, associated with Mercury and Gemini, which believes that there always could be something around the next corner that will change the whole picture.

Our willingness to explore our surroundings and expand our view of the world are found here. While in the 2nd we need to experience our five senses as connections to our natural selves, in the 3rd house the role of the five senses becomes a tool for experiencing, learning, and sharing about the world around us. Without a steady diet of experiencing the world around us and cultivating a sense of wonder at the newness we always have the option of experiencing, we're not at home in the 3rd house.

With Lilith in the 3rd house, our sense of curiosity about the world and capacity for the sense of wonder at what we find all around us, or might find, is tied up in Lilith's issues. With this placement here, if we're hiding our Lilith, there can be a sense of jadedness that the world does not have amazing things to offer us in varied splendor, and perhaps that it only offers the harsh judgment or abuse of others. The curious, open, and wonder-infused 3rd house nature of a person is what others have reacted against and used to punish the person with Lilith here.

The native's natural sense of curiosity and willingness to take in new information will also be affected by the energy of Lilith. Interests in natural approaches to health and visceral approaches to creativity are present in these people, whether they're expressed or not. Lilith could also color the means of communication: the way someone speaks or writes, or his or her word choice, and way of making contact in conversation.

If you have Lilith here, part of your healing path involves re-opening to a sense of wonder at what the world around you has to offer, and allowing Lilith to inhabit your 3rd house activities. Often, speaking what you understand is your authentic truth and representing yourself authentically in day-to-day interactions, is the most direct route. Lilith in us usually becomes conditioned over time to be aware of what others are doing and thinking, so the main part of the work with this placement is not merely in increasing awareness, but in recovering our willingness to interact with our environments and those in them in uncompromisingly authentic ways. Use the words you'd rather use. Talk about what you'd rather talk about. Read the books you'd rather read. With Lilith here, the biggest way we can keep ourselves from ourselves is in editing our sensory intake and communication for the sake of not being noticed, because being noticed can mean to Lilith in this culture being judged and punished.

Being willing to speak about Lilith's themes, whether or not they are explicitly known to be hers, is another way to work toward healing. But also recovering willingness to speak in Lilith-inspired ways. A healthy Lilith isn't afraid of the fact that life can get messy sometimes, and with Lilith in the 3rd, we have to allow that there can we can find ourselves surrounded by friction when we commit to being

uncompromising in our communications. After all, when we speak our truth, others *will* be able to hear it.

In addition to speaking what we know is true, Lilith in the 3rd must learn to open to hear what others feel is true. Healthy 3rd house work involves a natural flow of give and take of information, as everyone has something to offer that can teach us. The question is how willing we are to be open to what others might have to offer, and one of the healing tasks of Lilith in this house is to learn to act in and from the present moment, not the accumulated hurts from the past that say that others don't want to hear the truths one offers and one doesn't want the non-truths they offer. In the 3rd house, we don't know what's going to happen next, and we can serve ourselves well if we have no preconceptions. Recovering the sense of wonder about the world involves admitting that we don't know what lies ahead and around the next corner until we encounter it directly.

The value judgments and punishments Lilith can attract for speaking her truth need to be understood by the person with this placement as a necessary part of exposing people to new ideas. Hearing someone speak a personal truth that does not vibrate within the limited parameters of the Saturnian, consensus reality of the day is in many places radical. With this placement here, we seem to have signed up for the challenge of delivering to those around us uncomfortable truths that they need to hear, but also in sensing and hearing the uncomfortable truths existing all around us. When someone can do this, he or she will be participating in the world as Lilith, participating in his or her local environment as a reminder that there need be no filter on the expression of personal truth.

Lilith in the 4th House

The 4th house is the house of the places we come from, including the home we grew up in, our parents and families, heritage, and personal history. As the foundation of the chart and life, it also speaks to the kind of roots we establish and what is happening at the deepest emotional levels inside us. We look to the 4th house to understand what's going on in a person's private life, including the inner emotional realm.

With Lilith in the 4th house, the family and heritage we come from centered on some or all of Lilith's themes in one way or another. It could be that a particular family member ends up representing Lilith for the entire family, or that the family as a group experiences Lilith in a direct way. Or it could be that many members live Lilith stories from one side or the other - shunning or suppression, or wildness and punishment for it. Now, this might sound like many people's families, but there's an edge with Lilith: The stakes of either forceful authentic self-expression in the family or at home (or leaving it behind to create a new life elsewhere to maintain wholeness), or those of suppressing the expression of self and other, are high. In other words, there is a great investment in such families either of trying to be Lilith or trying to suppress her, or both, possibly resulting in generations of what may seem on the outside of it to be a war between the sexes or other sort of power struggle between one faction and another (old and young, foreign and domestic, etc.).

If there is a particular member of the family who represents Lilith within the family system, whether the native or someone else, the native needs to understand that this person has volunteered to be Lilith for the whole family. With Lilith in the 4th house, Lilith is a member of the family in an inescapable way. And in case you're

wondering, leaving the family system to remain whole isn't the escape or relief from experiencing Lilith we might think or hope it is.

The kind of deep ties we have to family members can in some cases make total suppression impossible. This is because we share not only what are very intense emotional bonds with family members, but also karmic ties. Especially with our family members, our perceptions of karmic debt are deeply-seated and can be extremely intense. With Lilith in the 4th the family has a tradition of experiencing Lilith's themes and living lives that fit into the archetype's unfolding journey.

If the family as a group has experienced life as Lilith, there is healing to be done in the area of connectedness to life as a whole. There may be wounding to the spirits of such people, given that if the family is treated as outsiders and rejected or punished only for being who they are, the feeling of being at home in any particular country or even in life in general could result. These could be nomadic peoples who stay on the go in order to maintain their traditional way of life.

As the house of where we come from, Lilith in the 4th house might also speak to the relationship with a particular parent. When a person is born, his or her mother is the entire universe – God, food, safety, and love all rolled into one. Whether or not the father gets in the nurturing act in a meaningful way and whether or not a person's relationship with his or her parents is positive or negative, they are seen by the child as the source of his or her self. While this is true on one level, from the karmic perspective we incarnate in successive lifetimes with each other in many different relationships.

If a person with Lilith in the 4th house is seen by one or both parents as a Lilith figure and in some way rejected because of it, this will define from the outset the kind of relationship they will have. As most of us are ill-equipped and/or unwilling to deal with Lilith's energy, the experience of a parent seeing what is a terrifying or threatening energy in his or her infant can be traumatic. And of course the experience of an infant being seen and reacted to in this way can injure the relationship with the parent forever.

With Lilith in the 4th, acceptance that the people we come from have done the best that they can, and that people genuinely do what they think is best, is called for. Also, work to create an adult family of one kind or another in which Lilith is welcome is important. Whether the family is a traditional parents-and-children one or a brood of animals of one kind or another, or a group of friends that functions in filial ways, healing for a person with Lilith in the 4th involves including room for Lilith in any nesting and rooting plans. Lilith in each of us needs to be recognized, and including her consciously in the foundational aspects of life is part of the healing path with this house placement.

This could look many different ways. Building into the family's life a recognition and honoring of the existence of nature, and part that humans play in it, is one way. This could be dedicated time in nature, or the kind of and location of the chosen home. Individuals in the family are respected on some level for being the self-sustaining beings they are, bringing the understanding of the self-regulating nature of each human body into consciousness to the point that each individual is (after a certain age) treated as self-regulating. How things work in the home must be in tune with the cycles of nature. Each of us, for example, needs down or private time in which to be ourselves without expectations of others or Saturnian rules of any sort.

Perhaps most importantly, connecting with the emotional reality of the Lilith-related experiences in our lives is critical in the healing journey for those of us with Lilith in the 4th house. It can be easy to see our unprocessed feelings in the 4th house and then go about living 10th house (public, work-defined, status-conscious) lives for as long as we're on the planet, leaving a storehouse of difficult feelings bottled up in our depths. As the house of the private life, natives with Lilith in the 4th house need to identify and bring into consciousness in what ways they have experienced Lilith's story in their own lives, and be willing to feel the feelings associated with those experiences.

Lilith in the 5th House

The 5th house is the house of creative expression, capacity for spontaneity and play, and is the house where the performer in any of us is to be found. From the traditional view, this house is also the house of pleasure-seeking behavior and that of children. Behind those two ideas, though, is the fact that our inner children live here.

Those of us with Lilith in the 5th need to create and express in authentic and unabashed ways. The connectedness that Lilith retains (or seeks, if we're unaware of or hiding her) is in unfettered expression of her wild nature. Which she would say, of course, is simply her nature. Everything that contributes to or might result in creative expression can be avoided for fear of experiencing pain.

A person with Lilith in this house might have been shamed in youth because of how he or she played. Before such a child's behavior is edited into conformity, his or her natural expression of creativity will be colored by Lilith's themes. The games of such children may involve one or more of Lilith's heavy themes, any of which will be difficult for most parents to understand as natural expressions from their children, let alone accept: betrayal, abandonment, rejection, or sexual power games including rape. And they'll play on either side of these issues – receiving or giving, as victim or persecutor.

Once this socially inappropriate behavior is edited out by family, religious, community, and school figures in the child's life, he or she will adjust into one of three ways of expressing: magnify the creative impulse, internalize it, or curb it to avoid repercussions. Magnifying it is a direct means to get more negative attention for behaving as Lilith. Internalizing it builds an internal pressure that affects every part of life, and at some point, the pressure will need to be relieved - none of us can keep rage bottled up inside forever. Curbing it leaves us feeling unexpressed and therefore unfulfilled, and leaves the questions of appropriate expression lingering in us for a long time (until we choose to bring it out or internalize it).

The native might also develop means of secretive expression, understanding that the creative impulse is something that links him or her to all of life, and therefore something that can't be denied but is not socially acceptable. A double life of sorts can result. For those who curb their creative impulses, the desire to freely and authentically create in a space free of Saturnian fear and consensus reality-based value judgments can intensify or create inner turmoil. The healing path for Lilith in these people is to connect directly with their creative sides and risk unleashing the creativity pent up inside, to be willing to invent a style of playfulness informed by an irrational, instinctive wildness. Lilith here yearns to show others in some way what it means and feels like to recognize, live from within and celebrate one's wild nature – to perform the experience of being Lilith.

A person with Lilith here might also feel the need to leave his or her family of origin or community behind if they are unable or unwilling to support his or her unique range and qualities of expression. For some it will have seemed necessary in order to remain whole and true to the self. Remember that Lilith chose to leave Adam because compromising on her values wasn't an option to her.

The materials and subject matter of a chosen art or performance piece might reflect Lilith's themes and an unapologetic connection to one's wild side. The native and others might cringe at first, but biological materials might seem interesting art materials to the person with this placement. Creatively exploring the experience of the rawness of the physical body is right up Lilith's alley when she's in the 5th house.

As the house of creative expression and spontaneity and play, sex as fun and play falls here. Traditionally, we say it's the house of love affairs, or relationships beginning with fireworks that might not get beyond them. In extremes of the range of expression, Lilith here brings an intense edge to what might otherwise be casual interactions and the expectation that by being playful, there will probably be punishment waiting on the other side. Lilith needs to be allowed to influence the choice of the person's playmates. Those playmates will be drawn to the native to show him or her his or her own internal Lilith. Such people will invite Lilith in the person to come out and play, presenting opportunities see and accept the wild inside.

As the house of the inner child and the fact that the fun of the 5th house can lead to children, there may be deep issues surrounding children, either having them or not, depending on the experience of the archetype – if the native has suppressed or wildly freed him- or herself. The willingness to allow the natural creativity of the body, including the menstrual process, can revolve around the pain of having experienced Lilith's story at any point in life. Healing this rests on accepting the body itself as a natural site of creativity that, barring chemical or surgical intervention, can't be edited into submission.

The evolutionary intention of Lilith in the 5th house is to reconnect the playful and creative side of the person with nature, with its cycles and the wisdom it has to offer, and to open to creative expression rooted in the primal, wild, visceral and instinctive side of the person. With this placement, your link to the wild of the world comes through your willingness to experience the wildness of yourself in a creative capacity.

Lilith in the 6th House

The 6th house is the house of duty, responsibility, detail-oriented work, service and how things actually get done. Work relationships fit in this house, as do interactions in which there is an imbalance of power for any reason. The high side of that idea is that we learn from and serve others as apprentices or disciples, and the low side is that we serve them as slaves.

With Lilith in the 6th house, a person's natural sense of duty and how he or she goes about getting things done is what is judged by others as potentially dangerous.

People who might be in a position to mentor or train the person as an apprentice may sense something unruly and threatening about him or her and not be willing to take the person on as a student. It also indicates that this person's natural mentors are connected with Lilith; understand and express their own version of Lilith's energy.

Finding such people will be difficult if Lilith is hiding in the person, and if she is not, finding them will involve first crossing many potential teachers off the list who reject the individual's forthright expression of his or her reality.

In the arena of responsibility and duty, the person with Lilith in this house can manifest an irrational and inconsistent approach. This is the person labeled as irresponsible and lazy because how she does things doesn't fit the norm. This will be evident in any profession, at school at any age, and in any other arena which is defined by doing things according to established rules, and where normative behavior is valued above all else, as the person with Lilith in the 6th will naturally not fit any controlling agenda.

The 6th house is also linked with the health of the body, how the small parts of us function. We might hear that the 6th house relates not to health but to disease, but as all disease is manifestation of what is not working in a person's overall life, I prefer to shift the focus back to the 6th being where we learn about our beings as wholes from the messages our bodies have for us. In a sense, then, the 6th house is about internal alignment. People with Lilith in the 6th must find their own version of this alignment, and must learn to honor it even as others may not. They've been shamed and punished for expressing their understanding or experiences surrounding their relationship with their bodies.

Whether this takes the form of maverick statements about what the body needs or what the body is communicating, the individual with Lilith in this house will have found at least at some point in his or her life a lack of support for the source of this wisdom. Taking a food-choice example from a couple of angles: It could be the vegan in the family who can't understand why anyone would eat meat and dairy, or it could be a meat eater in a family of vegetarians whose body speaks a need for meat loudly and clearly. Either way, the result can be a general lack of acceptance of the person and a deliberate exclusion of the person and his or her dietary needs at family gatherings or events.

As the house of service and imbalances of duty and power, people with Lilith here need to overcome anything like what might be termed a slave mentality that might have been adopted in order to survive. The natural inclination to service can turn into a self-imposed punishment or sentence. If this has happened, the reconnection with instinct can serve to direct where the person's energy goes – if it doesn't work for the whole being, it doesn't work. The healing is in letting go of what we should do, and be willing to do what we're viscerally inspired to do.

The evolutionary intent of Lilith in the 6th is to allow how, whom and why we serve to be informed by our instinctive, primal wisdom. This affords a reconnection with the world of our day-to-day lives that enriches everything with do with a sense of alignment with our true nature.

Lilith in the 7th House

The 7th house is the house of relationships with equals, including friendships, romance, and business , and all other arenas of life offering opportunities to learn fairness, balance, and equality. Opposite the 1st house of self, it is the house of the other. It describes what kind of others we'd like to meet, and how we will tend to meet them.

With Lilith in the 7th, we can look for Lilith in other people so that we don't have to express her (the 7th holds energies we're not necessarily sure how to relate to in ourselves and so we seek others to embody them). Whatever is in the 7th house, we need to learn to run the energy for ourselves. When we keep others around us to do it for us, we make the statement that we're not whole. With Lilith here a person needs

to take responsibility for being Lilith, and take care not to keep a door open for others' understandings of and reactions to Lilith to come in.

What happens when we keep an energy out of our own consciousness and invite others in to show it to us, or be it, is that the experience of the energy is unconscious. Its manifestations will tend to be exactly what we *don't* want in our lives. At worst, we wonder why we see an energy in everyone and why it has to bring difficulty. At best, we can use whatever we have in the 7th house to guide self-reflection to see what parts of us we might not be fully owning and using proactively.

With Lilith in the 7th house, then, you have the evolutionary intention of inviting others to show you how you do and don't relate to Lilith in your life. It can be a constant feedback mechanism about your evolving level of consciousness of the instinctive and wild side of yourself. If you've had periods in your life in which you've drawn abusive or judgmental partners, see that as a reflection that you don't own your Lilith (who, when positively expressed, doesn't stay in such relationships).

As the house of learning from and with others about how to develop fair and equal ways of relating, with Lilith here you might have had numerous experiences that make you think fairness and equality are not possible. They are of course possible, and with Lilith in the 7th your challenge is to tap into your instinctive understanding of how to create harmonious relationships, while being clear that you also will have to learn to be selective about your relationship choices, whether friends, lovers or mates, or those with whom you do business.

Learning to bring the part of you who is Lilith to others in all of your one-to-one relationships means first taking a proactive route of reconnection to this part of yourself, and then being willing to show that part to others. Others will already see the primal, wild side of you, even if you do not. Again, this is the house in which fit all experiences showing us about ourselves that might be difficult to see. People may assume that you have a wild streak and approach you with the expectation that you bring it out, that you live it – that you *are* Lilith. On one level, they're doing you the favor of pointing out something to you that is true about you.

Reconnecting with Lilith in the 7th involves allowing yourself to respond to others in absolutely honest ways, even ways that might challenge their comfort level. It may not be easy, as all Lilith healing challenges us. When you bring such a level of honesty, you'll begin to draw people to you who can not only handle seeing Lilith in someone else, but also want to interact with her.

Lilith in the 8th House

The 8th house is the house of trust, intimacy, and where we deeply bond with others. This is the house relating to all arenas of life in which getting below the surface of apparent reality is important. Whatever involves our deepest vulnerability fits into this house, as do taboos, the unavoidable facts of life people are afraid to talk and think about. As the house in which we learn about power dynamics, our deepest projections can come out in all 8th house relationships.

Lilith in the 8th house means that the instinctive, irrational, and primal side of a person is most comfortable in arenas of life where trust and intimacy are of paramount importance – this is her natural home in the person's psyche and, therefore, outer life. This includes sexuality shared with other people, but also any relationships that require absolute honesty and have something to do with power, hence the traditional assignation to this house of "sex, death, and other people's money."

The capacity to trust in someone with this placement will have been shaped by having lived Lilith's story. It's when the person with this placement has opened up on the deepest levels that he or she has been judged harshly and punished. For any of us experiencing Lilith's story, others' generic fear of the wild seems to us a rejection of us specifically. In the 8th house, where we are most vulnerable, this rejection can be deeply devastating. People with this placement may open to trust parents or other adults when very young, experience the fear of others as a harsh, negative judgment of the self, and resolve never to trust again. This can seem severe, but severity is part and parcel of 8th house terrain.

Healing includes becoming willing to engage in activities in which trust is a central component, risking being honestly seen by another, and being willing to show another the instinctive wild inside. Intimate relationships are of course a major part of the 8th house, and people with Lilith here might have long ago edited out of themselves the behaviors that can attract a suitable partner. These people need to accept now that being seen for what they truly are now, in order to find the right kind of partner, is of course a risk, but they have to weigh it against never showing themselves to another person, which leads to loneliness and depression from a lack of true, intimate connection with others.

Once a partner has been identified and invited, it will be time to remember that this house is also a house of learning about power. *Who has what power when, and why?* is a question that circulates through all arenas of life that fit in the 8th house. For those with this placement who have stuck Lilith into a subterranean closet, getting a look at what informs the balance of power in a relationship will mean getting to see Lilith's rage about the person's treatment in prior relationships and, in fact, the very deepest rage. That is the rage rooted in the first betrayal in his or her youth and likely still hanging around in the person's emotions and on his or her mind. The healing path, again, begins with total and uncompromising honesty. If the person's Lilith has been informing the choice of partner, that partner will be someone who can be around the wild, and who respects instinct and the letting out of primal intensity. And if this is not the case, it will be seen and there will be the opportunity to honor the self-as-Lilith by ending a relationship that doesn't offer the opportunity to consciously co-create a place for Lilith.

In relationships where a place for Lilith is welcome, awareness of whose rage and sense of betrayal is whose is critical. In the 8th house we attempt to merge, and we can get confused about what belongs to whom. It is profound and wonderful when our intimate relationships offer doors into healing, and yet we must not, as a wise astrologer once said to me, "make our mate our toilet." In other words, we have to maintain a sense of self-reliance and consistent routines of self-responsibility and self-care in all 8th house relationships, especially those emphasized by Lilith hanging out in this house in at least one party in the relationship.

It is possible that a person with Lilith in the 8th house won't be able to imagine working on Lilith outside of an intimate relationship, yet keep him or herself from letting anyone getting close enough to count as a participant in his or her 8th house. If this is true, one way of working on Lilith outside intimate relationship is to make a deal with one's self that all the major relationships in his or her life (family, close friends, et al.) can have a little 8th house flavor added to them, in the form of radical honesty, no matter what. This can be introduced in small doses and at a slow speed

(reconnecting with Lilith and consciously giving her a place in your life does not have to be dramatic, chaotic or destructive). This can serve several purposes:

1) shared honesty is healing for the 8th house Lilith native,

2) the people in the native's life who cannot tolerate Lilith will see the native in a new light, allowing those who jive with Lilith to support the native and giving those who don't a good reason to leave, and

3) a healing for the self in being a means for the person to get to know the unhealthy projections surrounding Lilith that he or she has developed or taken on from past relationships. It is probable that the native will guess incorrectly at least once about who in his or her life will fit into which category (does or does not jive with Lilith).

The evolutionary intention of this placement is to reconnect with the wild instinct as a guide into what people and events can offer us opportunities for transformation. When we give Lilith a chance to guide our 8th house experiences and encounters, we honor the deep need we have to be seen in our naturally wild, instinctive, and primal state and accepted for it.

Lilith in the 9th House

The 9th house represents the arenas of life related to seeking experience of the world that can tell us the truth of the world. It involves long-distance travel (experiences of the physical world), higher education (mental explorations of the world of ideas), and philosophy, law and religion (theoretical approaches to describe the underlying truths of the world).

What all these things have in common is an orientation toward, and belief in, a guiding principle. With Lilith in the 9th house, this relationship with living a life based in having a guiding principle is what has been judged by others, and for what a person has received censure and punishment. All of the arenas of life described by the 9th house involve a sense of acting on belief and hope, understanding that such action is a risk. This risk is that the beliefs might be misguided or based in inappropriate assumptions. So, then, those with this placement may avoid risking living according to his or her beliefs to avoid negative reactions from others for bringing, or being, Lilith.

What underlies all of this is that an individual with this placement brings an instinctive knowing and desire for authentic freedom with him or her into the arenas listed above. Whatever the status quo of the groups existing to develop or support them (universities, religious organizations, etc.), the native with this placement will seem to the members of it to threaten the status quo, no matter the belief system. A Lilith person will not fit into these groups, and will be seen as dangerous whether actively in touch with Lilith or not (if so, an obvious danger exists and if not, the potential for danger will be assumed by others).

The person in whom Lilith is hiding for fear of Lilith-related punishment may avoid all arenas of life which function to explore truth or the world, or may be in them but refuse to participate or be in any way positively connected with others there or the work of the environment. What is offered in these environments will evidence for this person a disconnect from what is *really* happening, because he or she can sense viscerally that there is more to explore than is on the syllabus, namely, the connection of the subject matter to the natural world.

This person will know on a deep level that the high use of education, philosophy, and religion is in helping people reconnect to themselves, and each other, and the

world as a whole. There is no relevance for him or her to subject matter or teaching style that does not bring life to the subjects taught, revealing the interconnectedness of all life on Earth. The kind of long-reaching exploration of the world will be affected as well. Travel to foreign lands might not be seen as an option, or as not worth the risk, with the energy of Lilith seeming to draw difficulty in all aspects of 9th house life. And yet such a person might sense the potential for life-changing experience in visiting or living in another part of the world, in a culture where the primal connection of individuals to the natural world is held in more esteem. It is also possible that a person with Lilith in the 9th house leaves his or her cultural context to find another one that allows for the instinctual connectedness to the planet and all of life that his or her Lilith needs.

In those in whom Lilith is not hiding, in whom the commitment to healing and exploring one's instinctive, irrational, primal, and raw connection to all of life, the area s of life that have to do with exploring belief become vehicles for exploring that interrelatedness to all of life. In these people it may be that belief systems and religions that honor the Earth and all life on it is explored, or ways of eating and living that speak to an experience of personal connectedness to the natural world, to the world as a whole.

The evolutionary intention of Lilith in the 9th house is to explore all arenas in which we develop an understanding of and relationship to truth with a conscious connection to instinct. With this placement, we need to allow our irrational and primal sides to guide the formation of our belief systems.

Lilith in the 10th House

The 10th house is the house of our public lives, how we live in the world, and we desire to be seen by the world. It can represent the way we make a living, but it is not to be limited to that. Planets and points in the 10th are in one sense the most visible in the chart, being the most elevated in the sky at the moment of birth – the MC, the beginning of the 10th house, is the highest point in the sky of the Sun on the day of your birth. The "public" of the 10th house covers all of our lives lived outside the home, and is not defined necessarily by celebrity, notoriety, or infamy.

We can tend to become public symbols for whatever we have in the 10th house, including the sign on the cusp. This happens because 10th house reality is one of appearances, as who we are in public is a function of a public role, and not possibly reflective of the complexity we in reality are. Each of us takes a role in our public spheres, and others come to know us by it, even if it is a style or approach rather than a concrete profession or position.

With Lilith in the 10th house, a person can become a symbol of Lilith's irrational instinct and primal wisdom to other people. His or her public self carries the energy of Lilith, and others will want to apply the prevailing labels for Lilith to this person, no matter how he or she behaves. If, after enough of this sort of treatment, Lilith in the person is hiding, developing a healthy and mature public role will be suppressed by this person. This is the house of being out in the world and of participating in the economy, leading the person with this placement to experience difficulty at work and just being out in public, for having this label applied.

While the 10th house isn't just about work, this is a major arena in which these energy dynamics will play out. A person might find him or herself put into all manner of scenarios at work that require a choice to honor the self and become suddenly very unpopular, or follow the rules and feel as though he or she has died a little. Depending

on the choices he or she tends to make, this could result in a string of jobs that have served as a classroom for Lilith-related power dynamics as he or she speaks up with integrity and is fired or feels forced to resign, or (just as plausibly) one or two jobs at which the native stays for long periods of time, where he or she fits because he or she does not challenge the status quo. Either way, there can be a sense of never being fulfilled by one's place in the world.

A third possibility is that a person may refuse to take responsibility for work, floating from one odd job to another, in effect not allowing anyone to open the door on the power games that leave him or her feeling faced with the choice to be true to the self or live a little more dead than before.

The real issue is that internalizing the negative reactions of others to us-as-Lilith (understood by natal house, sign, and aspects) guarantees that we attract further censure. In a sense, if we're drawing negative judgment and punishment as through we are Lilith, it means that we are not done feeling wrong about being who we are, about who others have been uncomfortable seeing us as. The healing here involves recognizing and accepting that people never think they're ready to meet Lilith, and that their reactions to you are not personal, but reflect their fear of primal, irrational, instinctive energy.

Remember that the Saturnian archetype, including Capricorn and the 10th house, seeks to smooth out all the bumps of individuation that occur in people so that groups can be formed and services developed for them. And then remember that a healthy approach to Lilith involves admitting our individual differences and honoring our unique relationship with instinct. While the entire Lilith configuration (house, sign, and aspects) must be taken into account, how the reconciliation of these two competing ideas can be channeled into a healthy expression of Lilith in the 10th house will involve a commitment by the individual to know and love him or herself for exactly how he or she is wired. Making time to understand his or her motivations, as separate from the reactions that may have been garnered in the past, is the foundation of such work.

If this is done, this person will be able to see the particular kind of instinct-inspired contribution he or she desires to make, and in fact can make, in the public world. This brings clarity, and the only thing left is to make a commitment to be him or herself in the world. Because, after all, the evolutionary intention of Lilith in the 10th house is to reconnect with Lilith in a public way via one's public role, to in a sense become a positive symbol for other people that living in connectedness to the natural world is not just possible, but important.

Lilith in the 11th House

The 11th house is where we connect with others who can help us make our goals and visions of the future become reality. The disposition of this house in a person's natal chart gives us information about how he or she goes about creating a vision of the future, and how he or she networks with like-minded others in order to make it happen. None of us can create the future as we want it without help, and this house represents all networks of colleagues and peers to which we may belong.

With Lilith in the 11th house, our pre-rational, instinctive, and wild self is most evident in the kind of future we envision, how we plan for it, and those we ally with to assist us in creating it. This can lead us to experiences of finding ourselves labeled as Lilith in every group we join, but this is an unconscious manifestation of Lilith's placement here. We may have experienced being rejected from many groups for

expressing our views, and we may have been feared as dangerous influences by organized others we attempt to befriend or with whom we attempt to become involved.

If we've taken on and internalized any rejection we might have experienced along these lines, we will be prone to stop attempting to ally with others and approach healthy 11th house experiences. This includes simply thinking beyond today, as opening the door to the idea of a future can bring up painful memories of our negative experiences from the past, whether those of this life or prior lives. There is an attitude of hopefulness that fits in the 11th house, as we must have hope that what we can envision is possible if we are going to bother to do anything about it. This is not an emotional hopefulness, but a mental understanding that our dreams and visions *can* in fact become reality, it just takes work and establishing contacts to manifest it.

Your emotional archaeology with Lilith in this house is to revisit those painful memories while being clear that their rejection of you and your contribution is not a reflection of the inherent value of them, and by extension you, but indicative of their fear of their status quo being challenged by an instinct-inspired voice.

Healing with this placement also involves increasing consciousness. We must allow our instinctive side to guide us in forming our goals, as well as in selecting those we join with to get things done. A healthy approach with Lilith here includes that any groups we choose to belong to have a place for an instinct-informed voice, or allow that such a thing exists and can have valuable things to offer. When we introduce Lilith to our decision-making process, the whole game – what we're thinking of putting our energy toward, who we attract to help us make it happen, and how things get done – shifts. If we are honest with ourselves about what we-as-Lilith have to offer, this shift will be into an entirely new kind of relevance, one that honors and reflects our goals and dreams.

A first step is in admitting the goals we have, what kind of dreams of the future we have. They don't have to be grand, large-scale, world-changing goals and dreams, but just what kind of life we'd like to develop and live. It can have to do with anything we want to create for ourselves. Admitting these things into consciousness is the first step toward healing, as we can't begin to associate with the right people and groups if we're not clear about toward what we want our energy to go.

The evolutionary intention of Lilith in the 11th house is to reconnect with the natural world via a conscious allowing of instinct to guide our visions of and work toward the kind of future we desire to create.

Lilith in the 12th House

The 12th house relates to all activities and places in which we lose a sense of individual ego and our conscious grip on being part of space-time. This house represents spiritual dimensions, escapist behaviors (anything we use to "check out" of reality), meditation, and inspired creativity. It also represents the masses, as a worldly version of the greater reality of which we're a part. Underlying all these things is that the 12th is the house of connection to something greater than the self, where we experience ourselves as members of a different sort of community than can be found in any other house.

With Lilith in the 12th house, a person will experience being Lilith in all contexts related to the way he or she connects with other and greater realms. To the degree that someone with this placement has internalized others' fears about the wild as a negative statement of his or her worth and lovability, 12th house activities will be limited, avoided or denied. With Lilith here, entering into the meditative, creative or

spiritual sides of this house means in some way being Lilith. Most of us choose not to experience the collective's negativity about Lilith and will therefore avoid being her at almost all costs. Yet she is real, a part of each of us, there are times when she is activated.

Being confronted with 12th house experiences and realities can seem too much to handle, and we can engage in one or a few escapist behaviors to relieve ourselves of inconvenient moments of higher consciousness. We may even spend the majority of our energy avoiding the possibility of seeing what is in our 12th houses. Escapist behaviors are any that occupy or dull your consciousness that you might use to keep yourself from being aware of what is actually happening around or inside you. If with her in the 12th we've been abused for being or showing Lilith, we might turn to such things to keep us from accessing or expressing that part of ourselves. Media, food, chemicals/substances, sex – just about anything can be used for this purpose.

The 12th house holds parts of life we sometimes don't know how to understand. As Lilith's primal energy also can't be comprehended, the combination can seem to inspire confusion. To successfully navigate the 12th house, we need to learn to flow with the greater reality in which we find ourselves, and Lilith requires that we experience our wild, instinctive sides. Putting Lilith in the 12th means learning to trust that our instinct is what connects us to the greater whole, and becoming willing to experience being guided by the instinct and primal nature.

The unique states of consciousness brought by 12th house activities need to be stepped into willingly. Everything that fits into the 12th house requires surrender. Regarding Lilith, the surrender is to ourselves as instinctive animals. To do this, healing with Lilith in the 12th rests on consciously setting aside time and space to figure out just how one can connect with the surrounding greater reality and world. You need the experience of being Lilith without limits, without expectations and rules, and you need to figure it out for yourself.

Nature is the best possible setting for this. Unplugging from our device-centered life and usual arrays of distractions can – and here is a key keyword for the 12th house – *allow* us to connect meaningfully with what is in this house. *Allowing* the sensory input from time spent alone in nature to show us more of who we are, a greater view of ourselves, can be invaluable for learning to trust the instinct. We are also talking about the primal wisdom contained in the body, and so trusting the wisdom of the body becomes essential. Trusting that the body is working for us, even when it speaks up with speed bumps in the form of physical difficulties, is necessary. When it "acts up," your body is telling you about the state of your whole being. With Lilith in the 12th, her instinctive wisdom and primal sensibility can serve as a guide for you about the big picture, how your life is going overall. Learning about and utilizing symbolic sight with Lilith in the 12th can help bridge the gap between your primal Lilith consciousness and the rest of you, providing a tool for bringing what you learn in the 12th house into your day-to-day living.

There are many different ways to reconnect with Lilith in the 12th house. Any activity in which you lose a sense that you are disconnected from the whole of life counts. Whatever it is, though, Lilith needs to be able to have her input in them. Her wild, irrational, and instinctive input needs to be heard and respected. Whatever 12th house activity is chosen, understand that you will find Lilith there. She'll present herself with her anger, and by giving her a voice in whatever 12th house activity you choose, it can quickly turn to a source of creativity and inspiration, a kind of hall pass

into 12th house experiences and consciousness you might have thought you'd never get to have.

Lilith in the Signs

The sign in which the true Black Moon Lilith is in a person's birth charts tells us about how and why his or her Lilith works. The house is the part of life in which Lilith most readily comes out, the section of life experience where Lilith is to be found in a person. The sign has to do with how Lilith seeks expression in the arena of life represented by the house and how matters pertaining to that house are approached and experienced as a Lilith figure. It is also the mode of being within a person that has been shaped by the cultural teachings he or she has witnessed, experienced, and absorbed about the appropriateness of the natural, wild feminine as it occurs in the self, in others, and in the world in general.

Lilith in Aries

The first sign of the zodiac is the sign of making the statement of existence. Its job is to burst on the scene – any scene, every scene. There's an unselfconscious quality to Aries that gets attention. Planets and points working through the lens of Aries behave instinctively, and do not evidence thought. The fire of Aries is an immediacy that flares up almost of its own accord – its thing is perpetual announcement of its existence.

With Lilith in Aries, the mode of immediate, instinctual response is what feels marked for difficulty from others. The Aries way of immediate response to external events will be wrapped up in the person's experience of Lilith's story.

With this placement Lilith will want to work her primal energy directly, without thought, and with fire. If Lilith through a history of shame and suppression is hiding out deep in the person's psyche and not expressed, the method of Aries will also be hiding out. Acting in the moment will be hindered, relating to the world instinctively will be edited into a lack of surety of the right ways to express in the manner of Aries. If she is not hiding, Lilith in Aries will be very visible to others, bringing the element of passionate desire to however Lilith is expressed. The person with Lilith here must become comfortable enough with the reality of his or her self-expression to live the energy without accepting other's injunctions.

Lilith in Aries is about being the primal, instinctive, raw side – *being* it. It is about inhabiting the drive and spark of life Aries relies on as fuel and with a physical connectedness to life. The expression of physical desire will be a major issue with Lilith in this sign. This is one of Mars' signs, this planet being that of how we make the statement "I want that!" This is the not the magnetic attraction associated with Venus/Taurus, but the fire-in-the-loins energy of Mars. This will affect sexual desire, but also the experience of going for anything that one might desire.

Lilith working through the passionate and desire-fueled nature of a person indicates an intention to learn not only to viscerally connect with Lilith, but to learn how to live in ways inspired by the spontaneous flare-ups of passion that Aries represents. As Aries is always making the statement of its existence, Lilith in this sign presents the challenge to constantly reconnect with Lilith by allowing the desire nature in the person with this placement to express its sparks on an ongoing basis.

Healing Lilith in Aries centers on reconnecting with that primal spark of energy that Aries in any of us represents. The unmediated expressive need of Aries requires that healing involve a free flow of the expression of a person's desires. As for any Lilith healing (since she's unacceptable to any status quo), private time must be had to make space for figuring out what kind of expression is right for us. Doing with the

body is required, and taking into account the house Lilith is in and any aspects she makes in the natal chart will offer more information about healthy ways to do this.

Lilith's creativity through the lens of Aries may lead to creative projects that never get finished. Depending on other chart factors, the person with this placement needs to learn not to let this affect his or her choice of projects to pursue, accepting that the sparks of inspiration are food for the soul, regardless of the product. The creative type with this placement needs to allow the self to be lead by the fire in the loins, regardless of what is thought about the work or project that seems to be flaring up into existence, and to lose judgment over how short-lived or fragmentary it may turn out to be. The evolutionary intention of Lilith in Aries is to reconnect with the wild side of the self through the Aries consciousness, which lacks a concern or awareness with the realities of time and duration. The experience of being Lilith is paramount for healing and creative expression to people with this placement.

Continuing with the fire in the loins business, Lilith in Aries can inform sexual expression with a Martian *go-go-go* imperative. The right sexual partner for someone with Lilith in this sign is one who can either go with the sparks of immediate expression the Lilith person brings, or participate in co-creating an energetic container for the Lilith person to inhabit the wild sexuality that so wants to be inhabited, that the soul needs to experience and express.

Lilith in Taurus

The method of Taurus as a sign is to slow things down, to stabilize whatever is going on, as a route to ensure survival. Taurus works as much as possible to develop a strong and enduring stance in stillness. In the natural zodiac Taurus is a reaction to the spark of Aries, working to ground that spark to ensure that it can become something to live on, more than just a flash in the pan.

With Lilith in Taurus, this slowing and grounding method of the person is what's been judged and shamed by others. They will not understand the stabilization motivation of the native and will fear this energy in the person. The primal and irrational orientation Lilith brings is in this sign seen to be threatening to the status quo, whatever it is. In a sense, the person's individual survival skills will be the judged and feared component of his or her personality.

Taurus' method from a larger view is connected with developing self-sufficiency. If the native with this placement has internalized the judgments and expectation of others, there can manifest a perceived inability to establish one's own value system and work toward stabilizing the self. It can look like a person who lives with a mandate to be chaotic, or who in some way or all ways doesn't care for the self because it's clear that others don't care for him or her.

If the person has released whatever judgments of others had been taken on, this placement can manifest as a person who understands on a deep level how to take care of the self, and this understanding will differ from outer norms and be a source of confusion for others. Remember that our willingness to be shamed for our Lilith-inspired expressions determines the level to which others attempt to bring negative judgment and shame to us.

As Taurus is the method of ensuring survival, if we've internalized the judgments of others, we may be living hand-to-mouth or paycheck-to-paycheck, seemingly unable to get our resources in order and create a comfortable living for ourselves. This is because our natural sense of self-worth and how we develop it carries a vibration that threatens the norms and comfort of those around us. For someone with

this placement in this situation, there is a healing surrounding the value of how the self understands how to care for itself. The use of skills and the gathering and appropriation of resources (time, skills, money, objects) need to be approached with an openness to allow the primal, instinctive, irrational side of the person have air, and air time. When Lilith is allowed to inspire a person's self-sufficiency development function, she can steer him or her into the direction of more authentic means of expression.

The evolutionary intention of Lilith in Taurus is to learn to reconnect with the wild self in order to differentiate between the modes of survival in the environment and those that the person feels more inclined to align with that are counter to prevailing views. This could be in reaction to prior lives of a failure to survive because of hitching one's wagon to a wagon train that, in essence, headed over a cliff. With the instinctive irrational wild side of a person working through Taurus, the native needs to learn to trust the wild in him- or herself, as well as to connect with the wild in the world.

With Lilith in Taurus, connection with the wild in the natural world means opening to relate to the processes of nature as processes that link elements of life together. A person's relationship with his or her physical senses as means of gathering necessary information needs to be developed. As an example, a person with this placement needs to open to trust that the way someone smells tells them everything they need to know about whether to pursue spending time with that person. All manner of rationalizations that fail to make the native comfortable with a choice to admit someone into his or her personal sphere will be explored and relied upon, until the instinct of the body, via the senses, is allowed a determining voice.

The senses as tools for gathering necessary information are necessary in how we express ourselves sexually, another part of life related to Taurus. As the sign of survival, procreation falls under its heading. The visceral experience of another person for someone with Lilith in Taurus will be defined by his or her capacity to rely on Lilith's irrational and instinctive approach to influence the choice of partner and how partners are related with. If Lilith is hidden, she will not be allowed to inform the native's attraction to others. In this case, the willingness to be attracted to others will also be hidden – wherever Lilith is, if we've taken on the judgments of others, we'll have learned to deny this part of ourselves and attempt to stuff it down into the dark depths.

Healing for Lilith in Taurus is in developing a first-hand relationship with the wild part of the self by engaging with the world as a natural part of it, using the senses as tools to guide us into the right circumstances with the right people, and at the right times. When we can come to allow Lilith to come out and be a vital part of us, she will influence the people and circumstances to which we're attracted by affecting our senses. This can seem odd to others, but accepting that it makes no sense to others or threatens their comfort (and not using their judgments to disconnect from this natural part of us) is part of the healing process for Lilith in Taurus.

Lilith in Gemini

Gemini's method as a sign is to open up to new information, express curiosity about where it finds itself, and learn about the surrounding world. This is the sign of the explorer, the student, the teacher, and the communicator.

With Lilith in this sign, the natural sense of expressing curiosity is what's been judged by others, and for what the person has received punishment. The speaking

style, and how he or she asks and answers questions, will be influenced by Lilith's instinctive, irrational energy. It's not necessarily that this person *is* irrational, but that the Geminian method of the person works from within Lilith's perspective.

The person with this placement will be naturally attuned to the kinds of communication that make people in his or her surroundings uncomfortable. He or she can be a sort of antenna for taboo subjects in any given context, and may feel drawn to touch on them just to get them out into the open. Whether or not this individual acts on this urge will depend on how he or she chooses to experience Lilith's energy. Does he or she act on it and get punished, making being able to see what others find uncomfortable a skill threatening and viewed as a means to have power over those who have meted out punishment? Or does he or she stifle the urge to speak uncomfortable truths for fear of punishment?

If Lilith is hiding in a person, either from a history of punishment and suppression or for fear of them, the mode of opening to new information and exploration, of expressing curiosity, will be blocked. Healing for these people requires opening this function to the outer world because they know it is a part of them. Taking time alone to explore what it means to use it, away from the fearful gaze of those he or she might expect is watching, is necessary. If you have this placement and keep your Gemini methods shut down, you need to reconnect with your capacity to experience wonder, and learn to connect viscerally with it.

What does that look like? While your senses need to be involved (Gemini as a method of gathering information relies on our five physical senses), and more specific cues should be taken from your Lilith configuration – natal house, sign, and aspect. For those with this placement in whom Lilith is not hiding, they've had to develop a confidence in the natural sense of Geminian curiosity they possess, and learn to express it even though it can make others uncomfortable. They've learned that their level of fear of themselves, and the resulting self-doubt, is what draws criticism from others.

The evolutionary intention of Lilith in Gemini is to learn to open up to experience the surrounding world in instinctive, irrational, primal ways. You've signed up to figure out how to reconnect with your capacity to experience wonder and do so in a more free way than most people. It may be that your chart tells the story of rigidity in thought, and that to recover a sense of aliveness, you might need to shake up how you think.

The methods of Gemini include rational thought and cataloguing what is thought, though no value is assigned by Gemini to what is thought or catalogued. With Lilith here, you need to reconnect with the experience of finding the new all around you, and to allow what you see, hear, taste, touch and hear to affect you. Allowing this will enable and empower your particular means to connect to the natural world that Lilith represents.

Lilith in Cancer

The method of the sign of Cancer is to go inward in order to find out where the self is rooted. Establishing roots to develop security is critical for Cancerian energy, and it relates to the world through an emotional lens. Feeling is therefore a primary tool of Cancer. Its subjectivity is a strength when we don't hang on to the experiences of any moment as definitive of overall reality; when we don't carry the memories and feelings of the past into the present in order to describe or define our reality.

With Lilith in Cancer, the emotions are the field on which the primal, instinctive, and raw side of the self is played out. The person's emotional nature exhibits the energy of Lilith, and any abuse or power struggles related to Lilith that a person has experienced in his or her life can contribute to a limiting of his or her willingness to process experience life through the lens of emotion. In other words ,if a person has been shamed for bringing out this emotive side of him or herself, the emotive capacity will be under wraps. Various means of quieting down the emotions will be attempted, from numbing behaviors (addictions of all kinds, over use of media/entertainment, destructive eating of one kind or another, etc.) to a lot of time alone so that, if the emotions can't actually be quieted, others won't have the opportunity to experience and react negatively to the nature of the individual's emotional expression.

Healing with this placement is to be willing to feel as much as one can, in the sense that the mode of processing emotions offers a direct connection to the natural world. With Lilith operating through this sign, the primal wisdom nature offers and the identification of the self with the natural world on its own terms is what we are challenged to honor by developing. The vulnerability we experience when connecting with and honoring our true emotional natures is, with Lilith in this sign, a means to a healthy empowerment.

Any and all shame we've internalized from witnessing others' fears of our natural emotional expression needs to be moved through our emotions, which means that it needs to be felt, acknowledged and released. The emotional faculty in the person with Lilith in Cancer needs to be kept open, to allow feelings and impressions to flow in and out. Health here rests on an individual's willingness to let go of the past, to embrace a sense of presence that has him or her living in the now, feeling in the present, and responding with his or her whole being, including the emotions.

The evolutionary intention of Lilith in Cancer is to reconnect with the natural world by becoming willing to inhabit our emotional bodies and experience the wildness we carry there. This can lead to an exciting and (in our culture) rare aliveness, a way of being that embraces the incredible feeling potential of a human soul when experienced via a conscious joining with a human body.

Lilith in Leo

The method of Leo is to express creatively, to share the experience of having personal view on and experience of life. Leo has a mandate to play and perform in some way, to show others what it's like to have its perspective – and to have fun doing it. This playful sharing is a gift that Leo offers the rest of the zodiac, and healthy Leo energy takes pride in self-expression.

With Lilith in Leo, this expressive mode of a person is either limited or launched into primal performance by Lilith. If Lilith is under the radar in a person, either from memories of punishment or rejection or the expectation of them, the playful performer energy in the person will be caged. The desire to creatively express is strong in the person, but the fear of rejection and punishment can keep him or her from exploring opportunities to express. Other people may see in him or her this desire, as well as the fear, and they may encourage the person to give it a try, to risk the experience.

Until there is some kind of healing of the past experience, however, it is unlikely that he or she will risk it, or that it will be possible without expressing an attendant rage from past abuse and suppression. What others might not see as they encourage the person to test the waters is that with rage built up, Lilith can only cannonball into the pool, and not merely dip a toe as others would readily do. And none of us, until

we heal our memories of suppression and abuse for being or seeming to be Lilith, will prefer making such a big splash from our place of anger, even as we deeply desire to get in the water.

The ability to take pride in one's creative expression is a site of wounding with Lilith in this sign. The natural sense of taking pleasure in one's innate sense of playfulness and spontaneity is tied up with feelings of hurt, and anger about having been hurt in the past for being seen as a Lilith figure. This person's playful side brings Lilith, and most others (especially when we're very young and exploring life via play) will be terrified of the wild that Lilith represents. The truth is that taking pride in Lilith, having come to love one's self for having this energy and being exactly who one is, will remove the threat perceived by others in Leonine expression.

Healing for Lilith in Leo is to allow the self to express, to speak or move or draw, the natural, animal self, recognizing that it is an integral part of the human self and deserving to be loved as every part of us does. The primal, instinctive and irrational side must be given time and space to make statements about how that part of the person experiences life, even if this is raw – time and space must be set aside to allow exploration of positive creative expressions of rawness. Doing this does not necessitate organized or formal performance, but Lilith in this sign *does* require a creative approach to expressing the irrationality and instinct experienced inside, and in time, sharing the product of the creativity will be important.

When a person understands how to bring Lilith in Leo out, we're talking about a person who can stir visceral and perhaps irrational responses from those in his or her environment. He or she will exhibit an unabashed playful side, and bring in a visceral flavor to all expression. This is not only a result of addressing what needs to be healed, but also a tool for healing. The sharing of this creative energy, the performative aspect of it, is important for the Lilith in Leo person, but sharing with others doesn't have to be the first exploration of it.

The evolutionary intention of Lilith in Leo is to reconnect with the natural world via creative expression that shows and touches others, helping them to remember their own need to reconnect. You came into this life with a desire to exhibit for others what it means to retain a connection to the primal, instinctive, wild side, and to learn to love yourself for and take pride in honoring that connection.

Lilith in Virgo

Planets working through Virgo's lens seek to break down wholes into constituent parts in order to learn how to improve them, recognizing that detail-oriented work is the only way to make things better. Analytical is a word we ascribe to Virgo, yet it is important to remember that Virgo's bottom line is in making things better, in serving in some specific way.

With Lilith in Virgo, all of the natural ways a person approaches the method of Virgo will carry the judgments of others. Someone with this placement can be criticized and punished for how he or she chooses to serve others, whether it's the kind of service that's deemed appropriate, or the way he or she reacts to the notion.

As a sign of service, Virgo includes any relationships we have that are based on an imbalance of power. Teacher-student, craftsman-apprenticeship, and master-slave relationships fit in here. Virgo is also a sign of caring for those less fortunate, of nursing and caring for the sick. The person with Lilith in this sign might be more attuned to finding the Lilith in others that needs attention, or might be reactionary to the idea of serving anyone at all, with Lilith here being an indicator that service

might have been experienced as a punishment in the past, with it now viewed by the person with disdain.

In relationships where there is an imbalance of power, the Lilith in Virgo person can draw extreme shame from the fact of serving. The energy of Lilith has a certain pride to it, and has a need for autonomy and unfettered freedom. Those the person serves and is served by can tap into the energy of Lilith in the person, and if judgment and shame from others have been internalized by the native, those served and serving can reflect it to the Lilith in Virgo native. Healthy Virgo energy involves the development of humility, and unhealthy Virgo can find itself humiliated, and there is a profound difference between the two experiences.

If Lilith is hiding in the individual, others may seem to rush in to participate in shaming the native for his or her Virgo-inspired qualities and behaviors. The person in this situation needs to turn to his or her Lilith energy and reconnect personally, outside the confines of these unhealthy relationships. Authentic attention to his or her body as an instrument of the wild world is one way to do this. Honoring the mechanical processes of the body for someone with Lilith in Virgo is a means to reconnect with this archetype. What others will have said about care for the body, including conventional wisdom, needs to be put aside by the person and a relationship with how the body reacts to everything influencing it needs to be developed. This includes, for example, an increased awareness of how the body reacts to foods: The body as an instrument of the wild world gives us constant feedback about how we use and treat our bodies, as well as what kind of fuels we feed it.

When Lilith is not hidden, a person's relationship with his or her body will be informed by a visceral understanding of cause-and-effect. This kind of relationship is not common in our culture. It may be the source of criticism or fear from others when the Lilith in Virgo person is fully expressed about what the body is and does, and what it wants and needs to maintain a state of health. The person with this placement needs to remember that the personal relationship to one's health, when honored, is primary to the person's overall health.

The underlying energy of Virgo is to make things better. Healing for those with this Lilith placement includes releasing any internalized judgment from others that has been taken on and learning without a doubt that remaining connected with the wild, irrational side, is in truth a service. It is from this place that the person will connect with his or her particular method of service, yet it is also for others a form of service to bring this wild into the world. Especially when it comes to the knowledge from experience the Lilith in Virgo person can have and share about connecting to the physical body as an instrument, or extension, of the wild world.

Lilith in Libra

Libra's method is to figure how to create fair, balanced and harmonious relationships – with others, but also with the environment and objects. Libra seeks to learn balance, and enters the game of life without a clue about what it really is. Planets and points operating through the lens of Libra aim to try out various ways of relating in hopes of figuring out what are fairness and appropriate styles of relating. At times, this exploration and testing of the relationship waters can result in the experience of extremes of interactions wherein there is no fairness or equality, and it must be remembered that this is part of the process of developing healthy Libra expression.

With Lilith in the sign of relatedness and relationships, a person's basic understanding of and approach to creating fairness carries a raw, irrational, instinctive

energy that may feel threatening to others. It could be that the Lilith in Libra person approaches others in a style that feels confronting and is rejected as inappropriate.

At the same time, it is the willingness to meet and particular style of meeting others as equals that's been shamed by others, and for which the Lilith in Libra person has been punished. Consequently, he or she because of past experience might not believe that equality is possible, and choose to avoid developing the natural give-and-take methods employed by Libra. Being unavailable socially sends out a clear signal, and others will not feel comfortable approaching the native with this placement if that signal is being sent.

In someone in whom Lilith is hiding, this can manifest as a series of relationships in which fairness is impossible because the true nature of the native isn't seen by others – he or she no longer shows his or her true nature because the fact that others can't deal with it has been learned again and again. The person with this placement in such a cycle will not be willing to show the self, will not open to the connections that lead to potential friends or lovers, from fear of being rejected, shamed, sent away, or somehow punished. The native with this placement needs to learn to let go of the judgments others bring about how he or she understands the creation and maintenance of equality. He or she needs to learn to risk exposing the self socially, to others, in order to find out how to learn how to create harmony.

How this can happen will depend on the individual becoming willing to connect with his or her own Lilith. As this is in the sign of relatedness, an emphasis on creativity and becoming willing to connect things together is necessary. The relatedness of art and music, color theory and harmony, fall under Libra, and these are avenues to begin to learn to connect with the energy. The social side of Libra will have to be included in healing, but it is entirely appropriate to find people one trusts implicitly to co-create a space wherein the Lilith in Libra person can connect with and honor the Lilith energy inside.

Being absolutely honest is a key. Honesty about how the friendship works, what each party gets out of it, and an examination of the unspoken rules of the relationship can foster the beginnings of the person with this placement recognizing and honoring the Lilith inside him or her. With Lilith in Libra, it is healing for the gloves to come off about the unspoken rules and expectations of relationships. Locating Lilith inside and learning to express her does not have to be argumentative or violent. It can be, especially if one or both parties is not committed to total honesty, but doesn't have to be.

All meaningful relationships for someone with Lilith here must come to reflect this gloves-off honesty. Lilith in Libra calls for an infusion of unfettered honesty into all meaningful relationships, and actually calls to make all relationships meaningful by doing so. Libra is the sign of relationships with anyone who is your equal, and learning Libra lessons along the healing path will show you just how many people all around you should be considered your equals.

In someone in whom Lilith is brought out into the open, Lilith in Libra can manifest as bringing the raw, primal intensity of Lilith to other people as though it is an everyday occurrence. When the Lilith in Libra person can learn not to be apologetic for carrying Lilith energy, harmony and equality can be explored with various kinds of people. He or she will naturally show Lilith to others and a natural take on how to explore the creation of harmony can be seen.

The evolutionary intention of this placement is to learn to open to others with total honesty and explore what it means to relate to others when everything about the relationship between two people is out on the table. Libra involves more listening than speaking, and those with this placement need to open to hearing the truth of the other, even when uncomfortable. The social conventions surrounding our relating taboos (not discussing what we truly need and want from our relationships) need to be overturned with authenticity and integrity by the person with Lilith in Libra.

Lilith in Scorpio

Scorpio aims to penetrate below the surface of whatever's going on, recognizing that there are always motivations rooted deep behind an apparent reality. In other words, it aims to understand the inner workings of whatever is in front of it. Planets and points working through the lens of Scorpio bring an intensity whether outwardly expressed or not, and you can guarantee that these energies are working as little detectives in the person all the time, taking breaks rarely (only when too much energy is expressed and there's some kind of burnout). Scorpio is focused on change and transformation, and approaches things from the inside out.

With Lilith in Scorpio, the person's raw, instinctive and irrational side operates through this lens of penetration and transformation, going below the surface. The person with this placement will tend to reserve primal expression for times, activities and relationships that further personal evolution. There is a sense of purpose that drives Scorpio, recognizing the necessity for deep change and the attention and focus necessary to do it.

If Lilith in Scorpio is hiding for fear of repercussion, this transformative mode of the person is also hiding. Scorpio is also the method of opening deeply to others we trust, and in this case, trusting relationships may be few and far between. If other planets or points are in Scorpio, their free and natural expression will be dampened until healing of the person's Lilith experiences has begun.

With Lilith in Scorpio, intimate relationships are a primary part of life where Lilith may come out. Scorpio represents the energy of attempting to get as close to something or someone else as possible. If the native trusts a person implicitly, he or she will want to bring out the instinctive and irrational side – it will seem to follow naturally when someone trustworthy is found. It happens, however, that we can choose partners we come to trust who aren't prepared to meet Lilith in us (or in anyone). If a Lilith in Scorpio person opens to someone not interested or ready to experience Lilith and the partner flips out, there can result a feeling of betrayal – the partner seemed trustworthy, after all. And it's not that this person is *not* trustworthy, but that Lilith in Scorpio can wait to come out until all defenses are down, making someone we're with feel that much more vulnerable to the raw energy she brings.

Some of the reactions to this person will be fearful, and others will be in anger (which is always rooted in fear), and others might attempt to control the native. This is where the judgments of others are seen and when they can be taken on, in the most vulnerable times. The native with this placement can come to believe that his or her natural ways of opening to another and relating intimately are not acceptable and will always be punished if seen by others, whether by betrayal or abandonment, or directly as punishment or abuse.

Healing in this situation comes when the Lilith in Scorpio native accepts that not everyone is ready to see Lilith intimately and that this fact does not reflect on the value, or lovability, of him or her. Lilith's gift to the native with her in Scorpio is

if he or she allows Lilith to assist in choosing the right sort of partners to open up to and trust. If a commitment to honesty is in place from the beginning in the Scorpio Lilith individual, the right sort of people will gravitate to and stick around him or her. This requires a level of faith that represents a healing for we may experience Scorpio energy (power struggles, betrayal, and abandonment).

Scorpio energy also relates to any relationship in which the parties can learn to be totally, nakedly honest with one another. In fact, any situation that calls for going below the surface, getting behind what appears to be going on, will be affected. The investigative function of this person, the part of him or her that has an intense curiosity, is the Scorpio part. If Lilith is hiding in this person from fear of repercussions, this entire function will be under wraps. For the person who has chosen to understand his or her Lilith and has begun consciously relating to the energy inside him or her, Lilith in this sign offers the means to connect the primal side of the self with the greater natural world by opening to and showing others what and who he or she truly is.

The evolutionary intent of Lilith in Scorpio is to regain an awareness and willingness to experience all the raw intensity that one has internally, as well as to express that instinctively with the self and with others. Doing this, admitting into consciousness and experiencing the intense side of one's primal nature, reconnects one with the natural world.

Lilith in Sagittarius

The method of Sagittarius is to reach out to the greater world as a means of gathering experience in support of understanding life, its underlying target. Planets and points working through the lens of Sagittarius seek to expand in order to understand. Sagittarius uses as a primary method a feeling of intuitive truth, a right-brained process that leads to operating according to belief. It is also the zodiac's mode of optimism, faith, hope, and risk.

With Lilith in Sagittarius, it is this reaching out into the world and gathering experience that is linked with how one experiences Lilith's story. The expansive and intuitive functions of the person are what have been judged and for which he or she has received some kind of censure. Over time, the native with this placement can come to believe that risking the gathering of experience isn't worth the cost, and this function may be shut down to avoid the negative judgments of others.

As Sagittarius is an expansive energy that brings us to be willing to hope and risk, when this function has the brakes applied for whatever reason, there is a limit to the native's willingness to experience new things as a means of learning about the world. Sagittarius can be called the sign of the seeker, with a clear direction and purpose on its way to a pre-defined goal (its glyph is the arrow – already launched, on its way to its target). If the willingness to seek is shut down, something else entirely happens, and it centers on an internal buildup of Sagittarian energy that can lead the native to believe that freedom itself isn't possible.

Sagittarius is also the sign of intuitive knowing, the knowledge we locate in our gut that operates without reason. If Lilith is not allowed air time in the psyche, this person will not trust his or her intuition, believing that there is no good that could come from utilizing or relying on this part of the self. It is most certainly there, and may be highly developed, given the connectedness to all of life that Lilith can bring, but is intentionally not expressed in order to avoid punishment.

If Lilith in this person is consciously allowed a place in the psyche and life, her instinctual wisdom offers a guidance system for the native to choose experiences that fit with the his or her need in any given moment. The irrational and primal side of Lilith can seem to influence choice in a way that appears to have no rhyme or reason (antithetical to Sagittarius' natural mode), and yet when the individual allows this to develop, it will become clear that there's a natural wisdom behind the inspiration to make the particular choices the person seems drawn to make. In other words, honoring Lilith in this sign means allowing the intuition to be guided by the irrational urge of Lilith, even if it challenges how Sagittarius would rather do things.

As the sign of belief, of intuiting things likely to be true and then adopting them as probably true and running with them as though they were Truth, Lilith here can manifest as someone who feels he or she has learned from experience that it's dangerous to commit to any belief. This person can become identified with not having sticking to any beliefs as a means of ensuring survival, as where we have Lilith points to a particular kind of survival strategy we develop to avoid punishment for expressing this side of ourselves.

Healing for Lilith in this sign is in risking the trusting of one's intuition, even if it seems to promise chaos. The raw approach Lilith offers connects this person to a higher wisdom, not to uncontrollable expression, as he or she may fear. The right kinds of experiences for the person at any given time need to be chosen with Lilith's influence, allowing her instinctive wisdom to guide the person. The evolutionary intention for those with this placement is to learn to reconnect the intuition with the natural world, and to understand how the individual can be informed and guided by it, beyond rationality, and beyond reason.

Lilith in Capricorn

Capricorn intentionally solidifies what's thought to be important, what seems deserving of attention in order to nurture in concrete ways. Planets and points working through the lens of Capricorn are oriented to structure and achievement, and can see itself as rather serious, mature, and down-to-business (or the opposite, if under-developed). To get to the right kinds of structure and achievement requires developing maturity. It could be said that whatever planets and points we have in this sign have the intention of figuring out the right ways to grow up.

With Lilith in this sign, the natural expression of the get-to-work, maturation function is what's been judged by others and for what the native has received punishment in the past. The kinds of work viewed by this person worth doing, as well as the ways he or she has gone about bringing them into manifestation, are what we're talking about. This work is not only the kind of work we choose to do in the world as adults, but also, for example, how we when young go about completing school assignments.

The maturity that Capricorn aims to develop is the mode of Lilith when placed in this sign. If Lilith is hiding in a person with this placement, he or she will be reluctant to develop any project to its maturity, and will avoid expressions of maturity, having internalized the negative judgments and censure from others when he or she naturally expressed this part of the self in the past. This can look like an avoidance of the opportunities that naturally come one's way to take on new levels of maturity, to identify as mature in terms of what one does and, as a result, be accepted by others as an authority with something valuable to offer.

Capricorn is the sign of the elder, what has passed the test of time and therefore has something valuable to offer. Planets and points in Capricorn must come to mature, and the wisdom from experience that time can offer is a function of time. When people with this placement come to heal and release painful memories of being pushed around and suppressed for exhibiting Lilith's energy, they can offer others an example of how to manifest in the world a place for their primal, instinctive wisdom. In the process, they can help guide others to their own version of maturity relative to Lilith, which includes a conscious recognition and integration of what she has to offer.

Healing with Lilith in Capricorn requires becoming willing to honor one's own instinct for how things should get done and why. Along the way, the judgments and negative reactions we've received in the past for our Capricornian efforts need to be released. The evolutionary intention of Lilith in Capricorn is to develop a grounded and stable relationship with one's instinctive side. This may sound counter-intuitive, but the Lilith function itself need not become predictable (as Capricorn seems to require), but that the individual's relationship with it have a consistency.

Lilith in Aquarius

The method of Aquarius is to break away from established structures and routines in order to create individual expression, with the ultimate goal of being free. Planets in this sign operate through a lens of objectivity, seeking to gain a detached perspective on reality that can free up space for original ways of being.

With Lilith in Aquarius, the need for freedom is tied up in the person's history of being reacted to as a Lilith figure. If a person has stopped acting on Lilith's impulses (if she's hiding out in a person for fear of being punished or abused), the individual's sense of individuation will feel threatened. The sense of freedom to create the kind of life the person wants to create will be under wraps. When we deny the individuation urge, we become victims of boredom, or we build up a charge inside that threatens to explode.

Any energy working through the lens of Aquarius needs personal space around it, as well as to figure out ways to do things and be that are different than anything in the surrounding environment (or different than anyone has ever imagined). This is the sign of the inventor and energies working through its lens seek to be different, to make a unique contribution. The willingness to be different in any way is affected if the individual has internalized any of the fear from others as negative judgments about the value of his or her unique contribution. The sense of being different and having something unique to contribute definitely exists in the person, and yet his or her fear of potential negative repercussions from others can keep him or her from expressing it. And when Aquarius internalizes its electricity and uniqueness, bitterness and resentment can follow.

Aquarius is also the sign of networking, of connecting with others who either share or can support our goals and help us bring them into existence. This is the sign of friends, but only if we define friends as people who want the future to look the same way we do. Seeking others to help refine and support our goals is necessary to any undertaking. And yet with Lilith in Aquarius, we can prevent ourselves from finding these others, preventing ourselves from having the chance to spread our wings with like-minded others, which in this sign represents part of our individual genius.

The healing with Lilith in this sign centers on becoming willing to feel the instinctive pull of one's own primal wisdom, and being willing to accept that the way one does this and express it will set one apart from everyone and everything else.

The evolutionary intent of Lilith in Aquarius is to experience your instinctive, primal wisdom as you learn to distance yourself from the fear of others, coming to be able to see objectively the unique contributions your understanding of the primal wisdom of nature, and your part in it, can make in the world around you.

Lilith in Pisces

Pisces as a method opens to greater realities, or greater dimensions, with the motivation of experiencing a connectedness to more levels of reality than the ego-based self can experience on its own. Planets and points in Pisces work through a lens of opening to and experiencing realities of wholes bigger or greater than the self.

With Lilith in Pisces, this method of the self is what has drawn punishment from others, leading a person to suppress this open and opening way of being. The result can be an total, conscious denial that being connected to things greater than the self is possible. And yet there is at least a part of the self that works through this lens. In any of us, Lilith hungers to be recognized, and so even without other planets and points in Pisces, there will be internal conflict brewing about this issue until the tension can be released.

If Lilith is hiding in the person with this placement, this lack of connectedness will carry over into all of life, not just the spiritual/mystical realm. Pisces represents how we go about feeling connected to all of life as part of the flow of life, and so the feeling of not being connected can lead us to shut down the urge to connect with anything and everything. This can lead to all sorts of self-abuse, acting out on ourselves the negative judgments others have of us for Lilithing in a Piscean way. As the energy of escaping ordinary space-time reality, Pisces also covers what we call escapist behaviors, including substance use and abuse and addictions of all kinds. If these are part of a person's experience, healing needs to include learning to use Piscean energy consciously by choosing alternate Piscean expression (some form of inspired creativity or meditative approach to life).

The personal connection with energies we might call Divine (or anything the experience of which requires us to use more than what is to be found in the tool box of the ego) must be re-forged. There are many ways to do this, but all of them have in common a willingness to recover a sense of trust in something greater, necessary for any healthy experience of Pisces. We may not know what that greater thing is, but with Lilith in this sign, reconnecting to all of life and the planet requires exploring the feeling and experience of being connected to it.

In astrology we might hear that Pisces is a sign incapable of being understood, and so the words used to describe it might tend to be vague and non-committal. The truth is that it is absolutely describable, but it doesn't work on the level that our conscious minds can quantify and process – it doesn't *compute* – and often the style of the description is as useful as the words used. In other words, a sense of the poetic needs to be recaptured.

The natural world is a site of Piscean energy, being the greater context in which we find ourselves, and healing for Lilith in Pisces can be found via reconnecting experientially to the natural world. Allowing nature and the greater reality around us to influence and guide us can show us how to allow our own nature to learn to come out.

Natal Aspects to Lilith

Aspects are not good or bad. They represent different dynamics between energies in a chart. A person's experiences and conditioning will inform his or her choices about relating to and expressing any energy in the birth chart and everyone's got free will to make any choices in his or her life. As the symbols in a chart operate multidimensionally, we will manifest a variety of sorts of circumstances and people to bring us our internal energies in real-world situations.

In the birth chart, aspects between the true Black Moon and planets and other points tell of the energy dynamics within the person's energy field. One way to look at aspects is as the conversations happening between the two energies within the person's energy system and consciousness. Extending the "As outside, so inside" idea, aspects describe the kinds of people and dynamics we will draw to ourselves in order to experience and learn about Lilith. External situations in our lives related to Lilith's themes can be understood through the need we have to draw to us others who embody the energy or inspire us to do so so that we can learn about ourselves and how Lilith's consciousness operates within us. This happens throughout the course of our lives with natal aspects while temporarily with the aspects that transiting planets make to Lilith, about which you will read in a later chapter.

Sun

How we go about developing a coherent sense of self, what is known as sanity, is the business of a person's Sun. With a natal Lilith-Sun aspect, the central organizing force of the personality is involved in a conversation with Lilith. The Sun also represents our creative expression and vitality, and Lilith can add a raw, primal, visceral flavor to creativity our feeling of overall health.

The Sun in the natal chart, as the CEO of the meeting of the whole self, can seem the purpose of the entire life. Therefore, Lilith's concerns will be the individual's concerns. If you have Lilith in aspect to your Sun, you are more directly (but perhaps simply more obviously) living Lilith's story than most people. The specific aspect will determine the kind of internal conversation in your personality's wiring that manifests as external, real-world Lilith experiences.

With any of these aspects between Lilith and the Sun, the native is seen to be in some way directly and majorly connected with Lilith. This is enough to draw negative attention for being just who they are, as Lilith did. It doesn't even matter what the native's relationship with Lilith energy is. A positive relationship will likely be seen as indicating danger to the status quo, and a negative relationship will likely be seen as indicative of potential danger to it. The thing is that just about no one in society wants to be reminded of the fact of Lilith's existence, and those with her in aspect to their natal Suns are constant reminders that she can't be wished or punished out of existence, which is to say out of us as humans.

The person with these aspects might identify primarily as a Lilith figure, and might be seen primarily as one. Because of this, the natural expression of self will seem to others to bring Lilith out into the open, which is usually uncomfortable. If you have this aspect, at some point in your life you need to heal the feelings surrounding being reacted to as Lilith, especially when you were young. When very young, we internalize the reactions to us of our parents, who are the whole world to us. If we come from families who fear and actively react against Lilith energy, or who have a "need to be her and be punished for it" history, we are carrying others' judgments about our acceptability.

When the person with this aspect was young, it is almost certain that he or she received feedback from others, especially parents, teachers and anyone else in authority, that there is something unacceptable about his or her natural expression, being just who he or she is. Whatever the admonishment or punishment he or she received (depending on the level of threat the child seemed to present to the authority figures), the main point is that the self-identity is integrally wrapped up in others' reactions to Lilith.

Giving in to Lilith in creative expression can lead someone with a Lilith-Sun aspect to identify as the processes of nature. We all have internal rhythms that in some way mirror those of nature. With a Lilith-Sun aspect, the vitality and sanity of an individual requires learning to honor inner and outer rhythms of nature, allowing the self to be developed and guided by the experiences. Personal rhythms to tune into include sleeping-waking, private-public, consuming-producing, eating-fasting, and the natural healing cycles of the body. The relationships developed with these cycles by the person with Lilith-Sun aspects may come out in creativity, with the body and its processes and cycles informing the qualities and content of the work, not to mention the way work is produced.

A major growth challenge for those with Lilith-Sun aspects is to release whatever judgments they've taken on from others, develop a conscious relationship with the part of themselves that will not be controlled or managed into submission, and learn to live in the moment with a healthy integration of the instinctive wild inside. Becoming a Lilith figure is part of this process, no doubt – if you've got this aspect, after all, you've signed up to learn in this life to include Lilith's primal, instinctive wisdom in how you develop into a sane, vital being.

If Lilith is **conjunct** the Sun, the person will be readily and directly identifiable as Lilith. He or she will obviously carry Lilith's qualities around with him or her, and people will react to the native as Lilith. The native is challenged to honor and love him or herself in the face of being seen as a frightening figure, one who disrupts the status quo. Honoring the natural knowledge of who the self really is, instead of the culture inheritance that Lilith (meaning the self) is evil and demonic, is critical. These people need to learn to incorporate Lilith's energy as a proactive and healthy response to the world and leave behind all the fear-based projection of others – others who have been trained to fear the rhythms and ways of nature.

If **sextile** the Sun, the person will be seen to draw inspiration from and be triggered by Lilith; that they are in cahoots. The energy that is running the person's internal meeting in the psyche will have an ear open to whispers from Lilith. The person's relationship with the instinctive side will determine of the ear is open or closed, and whether Lilith's instinctive wisdom is permitted to assist the person as whole. Ideally Lilith's wisdom can be incorporated into how decisions are made by this part of the self, and that the sane grounded qualities of the Sun can also trigger Lilith into better and more healthy expression.

With the **square** between these two energies, the person is seen as having an internal argument with Lilith, but definitely aware of her and at times forcibly and/or erratically influenced by her. A major challenge of this aspect is to respond to the external wild that seems to challenge you with friction with a willingness to be changed by that wild. You need to allow the wild to change you on a regular basis.

Those with the **trine** will be seen to enjoy a supportive relationship with Lilith. The Sun and Lilith in a sense speak the same language, and the highest choice with this aspect is in allowing information to flow between the two energies that helps each grow in positive ways. Whatever each is doing, the other will support it. So we need to be sure that what each is doing is not negative, unhealthy, or destructive.

With the **opposition** to Lilith, the person will be seen to have a perpetual conscious awareness of Lilith, and perhaps to learn from what she has to say. The highest manifestation of this aspect is if you can meet any energy that seems like Lilith that comes at you in confrontation to show you things about yourself that you can't see on your own. Oppositions can serve to reveal our blind spots and prejudices…if we let them and choose not to see those others as enemies.

Moon

The Moon in the natal chart represents our emotional nature, what and how we like to feel, our needs and desires, and often one of our parents. It's also what we need to do to make ourselves happy. With a Lilith-Moon aspect, the feeling nature and orientation to the world of feelings is informed by Lilith. She is present in the emotional expression of the person, and authentic and free emotional expression from the person can be raw, total, and very intense. It can access a rage deep inside the person. Consequently, people with this aspect natally may be hesitant to express their emotions fully, thinking that the intensity and possibility of unbridled rage would be totally unacceptable. They're right, of course, that it's socially unacceptable, but people with this aspect need to find or create a space in which to express freely what's inside.

These people learned early in life that spontaneously and fully expressing their deepest, most intense, and darkest emotions was not appropriate or acceptable. The emotional nature itself and the natural means of emotive expression is what in these people has been feared and judged by external authorities, and it's what they've been punished for in the name of not shaking up the Saturnian status quo.

The Moon in any of us is always on the lookout for a confidant, someone with whom to share our inner world. Someone by whom to be accepted, and someone for whom to do these things. In other words, our Moons are wired to look for opportunities to give and receive nurturing. If natives with this aspect get caught up in looking for someone else to validate their emotional realities, they will bottle themselves up, creating a backlog of unprocessed emotional experiences that can take a long time to work through. At some point, each of them must, however, if they want to take further steps toward emotional health.

One practical strategy to begin to unlock and inventory the warehouse of bottled up Lilith-infused and Lilith-inspired emotions begins with observing our reactions to the idea of expressing our intense emotions intensely, and then creating a private space for ourselves to explore what it is to admit them into consciousness. Taking charge of this as an individual is important because healing Lilith issues involves honoring what's happening for one's self, and it needs to be done by the native. To heal our Lilith-Moon pain, we have to be the ones to open space for expression and nurture ourselves: Lilith's authentic expression involves being on her own. This is not to say that others cannot or should not be involved in our emotional lives, but to say that taking responsibility for our own needs is incredibly healing for those of us with Lilith-Moon aspects.

With Lilith-Moon aspects, healing and healthy living means being willing to feel all that we have the capacity to feel. With these aspects, you've signed up to learn how to integrate the nasty realities of rejection and suppression, and the resulting rage, and the marvelous realities of allowing spontaneous authenticity into your emotional life.

The range of emotive possibility seems increased in people with this natal aspect, as well as the familial/social injunction to keep a lid on those possibilities. People with this aspect need to learn how to find or create outlets for expressing their intense emotionality, whatever it is that's held there. As long as this person does not know what's held there, it will seem like monsters populate a space in him or her, and that the door needs to be kept locked at all times and at all costs. Keeping something out of our consciousness takes a tremendous amount of energy and allows us to give it an

ugly face – it's shadow, after all. Those around this person will sense that he or she is not fully present, perhaps that the person is not honest about his or her feelings. The dream scenario for people with Lilith-Moon aspects is to find a Lilith-like person, or someone who can handle being around Lilith, with whom the door into his or her deep, raw, intense and primal emotional reality can safely be opened, but the reality is that this person must learn to open the door on their own and find out what's inside, and make peace with it.

If Lilith is **conjunct** the Moon, a person will feel Lilith inside him or her, and likely will be able to feel it in others. The two energies are fused, making one incapable of working without the other.

With the **sextile**, the emotional life and means of emotive expression will seem to be triggered by the Lilith issues in the person's life, and vice versa. The perspective of each has something encouraging for the other.

The **square** will be an argument between the emotions and suppressed rage and desire for authentic expression, perhaps even causing periodic emotional outbursts as the tectonic pressure between Lilith and Moon undergoes a natural, tension-relieving release.

The **trine** will be seen to offer support from her to the person's emotionality, shoring up the emotiveness with a raw, primal edge. Lilith and Moon in this relationship speak the same language, and if we can allow them to influence each other, there can develop a supportive conversation that bolsters and boosts each.

The **opposition** is a conflict between the needs of the Moon and the needs of Lilith, resulting in what might seem a standoff until creative ways are found to get both bodies in a dynamic, active dialogue that can move the energy between them.

Mercury

Mercury is the planet of perception, communication, learning, and travel. The kinds of things we're interested in, as well as how our perceptive and communicative functions operate, are represented by Mercury.

Natal Lilith-Mercury aspects indicate that the ways we perceive, think and communicate are directly influenced by Lilith. We'll be interested in her themes, and we'll be received as though we bring her messages into the world. And it's likely that we'll think like her and make many people uncomfortable whenever we speak with a sense of true honesty.

When young, people with this aspect are judged, and perhaps punished, for their way of speaking and writing authentically, and their natural sense of curiosity. What interests them and how they talk about it might have gotten them into trouble. This can take many forms, from having an interest in taboo subjects, to an irrationality that makes communication with them difficult, to the use of raw language in some form that makes the person's communications discomfiting to others. This doesn't have to be foul language, but can be a way of using language that unnerves others. Because of the constraints inherent in living in society, it certainly could be foul language, but also topics that might not be generally taboo but are known to be uncomfortable to people in the vicinity. This kind of Lilith expression, as a way to take back power in deliberately making them squirm, seems a cheap way useful for blaming others for a sense of powerlessness when it comes to natural expressing one's self without inhibition.

With this aspect, we're talking about the suppression of the authentic voice of a person. Natives with this aspect can develop into quiet people who seem like they have nothing to say. This is the side of Lilith experience and expression that is reacting to the often hostile reactions of others to what Mercurial offerings he or she makes.

Healing for the person with aspect is in finding a way to honor the true nature of his or her thought and communication, and in expressing them. How he or she perceives and communicates is not bad, it's just received by others as though it is. Until it isn't, that is: If risking authenticity in thought and communication can't be done in the person's present surroundings, new surroundings will need to be found. Before that, though, a personal, private connection to one's Lilith energy is needed so that the place inside us where she resides may be known. But healing also requires some kind of communicative expression about life that is rooted in that place.

Keeping some kind of journal in which anything can be said, and in any ways that feel right, is one possibility to making this personal connection on the way to acceptance. The irrationality of expression doesn't matter; the feeling that others hearing the words might rip away skin and expose what's underneath doesn't matter. With this aspect, you must get to know you own voice and allow it to be what it is.

If you have this aspect, you've signed up to figure out how to be able to understand and articulate Lilith's energy in you and others. You've set yourself the challenge of seeing and hearing her in the world around you and speaking to, with and about her with yourself and others. You need to make peace with the way your mind works, the kinds of things you're interested in, and what you're driven to say or write. You need to accept the truth of how you think and communicate and file all the negativity about it in the past, as useful materials in a process leading authentic reconnection to self.

Free, unfettered expression of your thoughts and ideas is the ultimate goal. Once healing the feelings at the root of your suppression and rage are underway, you'll feel more free to express your natural Mercurial authenticity. Others may still to some degree react to your Lilith-inspired communication, but if you allow Lilith a place in you, the relationships she has with other parts of you (seen by natal aspects to Lilith) will develop, and her expression will then support your expression as a whole being. Once this has begun, you'll have accepted yourself enough to rob others of the fuel to criticize you for speaking Lilith's messages.

The **conjunction** of Lilith and Mercury indicates a fusing of the logical, linear mind and Lilith's themes and experiences. When this person communicates authentically, others will perceive there is always the danger of an uncomfortable truth slipping out. And it is probably true! The trick is to learn to embrace the fact that one's thoughts and voice carry this energy and to refrain from taking other people's fear as meaningful about the worth of those thoughts and voice.

With the **sextile**, the person's communicating and thinking can be triggered by Lilith. This is the person who, if you're nervous about him or her going off on a Lilith-inspired tirade, you edit what you share with him or her. Within this person, the mind is being tickled or poked in the ribs incessantly by Lilith until the mind figures out how to do something active to relieve the internal tension. It is important to learn to choose proactive expressions for each energy and not just allow the tension to build and then behave unconsciously.

The **square** indicates that the person experiences a friction between Lilith and Mercury, and the speech and thought of the person may at times burst open with messages and/or in raw, primal, visceral ways. Said another way, there is a tension always building between Lilith and Mercury that must, at some point, find release. Each energy has a criticism of the other, thinking the other is doing whatever it is doing in the wrong way. This tension can lead to much creative growth if the person with this aspect is willing to introduce change into how things are done.

The **trine** offers support from Lilith to how the mind works and what's interesting to the native, making these functions able to support in their conscious awareness what Lilith has to say and how she says it. Because there is no pressure to change, there can be a lack of movement – they can congratulate each other on whatever they are currently doing. If they can be brought to work together actively, much growth and progress concerning the mind, communication, and curiosity and the instinctive, unfettered wild can occur.

The **opposition** means that Lilith confronts the person's Mercury, at best offering it her perspective for the native's perceptive and communicative functions' benefit, at worst challenging them into self-doubt about what he or she thinks, says, or writes. This can seem an argument inside (that will manifest in outer scenarios and relationships) that can prevent each part of the self from finding healthy routes to expression. Each can find them, but the reflections each has for the other need to be taken into account in order to move beyond an apparent stalemate.

Venus

Venus is the planet of values, worth, sensuality, and relating. Your Venus indicates how you go about creating fairness and harmony in anything you do, ranging from relationships (harmony between people) to art (harmony between colors, shapes, and textures) as well as the kind of relaxation and pleasure you're oriented to seeking and enjoying.

With Lilith in aspect to Venus, your relationships and capacity for pleasure and enjoyment are wrapped up with this primal, irrational, and instinctive side. All Venusian expression from you will carry the raw energy of Lilith. If you are hiding Lilith, these relating and creative functions will be hiding to a degree too. If she is out and about in you (if she's got a hall pass), you can expect your relationships and creativity to exhibit her energy, getting you noticed from others for expressing your Lilith.

In the arena of relationships, this will affect all of them with one or another side of what Lilith brings. Love relationships, friendships, those with anyone you consider an equal are possibilities. Others could be mistrusted because of past experiences of being judged and punished as Lilith was, leaving one to avoid initiating or expressing interest in relationships of various kinds. Or others could be approached with a directness and honesty that is truly refreshing.

In creativity, the raw, primal and instinctive side will come out in the choice of materials and vocabulary of expression. A piece of art viscerally made can affect viewers or listeners viscerally, too, and this is possible if Lilith is integrated and allowed to participate in a person's expression. As many of us are uncomfortable with being provoked viscerally, the creative person with a Lilith-Venus aspect needs to learn not to take unconsidered negative reactions to heart – they're intended as a protective measure from others. With this aspect, this person has signed up to learn how to creatively express Lilith's energy, bringing her to others in imagery, shape, sound, color, or texture.

Venus' role as the planet of values is informed by Lilith in what is important to the person. Those of us with this aspect who do not figure out how to reconnect with Lilith run the risk of never making a statement about what's important: If Lilith is to be found with that part of us and we fear Lilith, we'll suppress the part of us that makes a stand about what's important. There will probably be numerous opportunities to take such a stand, as life gives all of us opportunities to stretch into new territory, and at some point if the Lilith-Venus person takes the opportunity, Lilith will have the chance to wake up.

She also will have something to say about the kinds of people the individual prefers to interact with. With this aspect, Lilith has opinions about who the individual chooses to spend time with – friends, lovers, mates. If Lilith is suppressed in a person with this aspect, the relationships chosen may prove the kind that are not designed to provide space for the individual to be truly who he or she is, or might even depend on the individual not finding this out. This is to say that if we do not recognize and honor Lilith in us, we will draw others to us who also will not. If this is our pattern, we can find ourselves in the midst of power plays, abusive relationships, and those with people who can't really see us. The way out of such patterns is in reconnecting to our self, and learning self-love in all matters affected by Lilith. We need to unlearn

our conditioning about who Lilith is and what is her worth, and release the harsh judgments of others when we brought her out in the past.

In relationship, a Lilith-Venus aspect can also manifest as a partner who brings a primal, raw, irrational edge. Depending on how the native and the partner perceive and choose to react to Lilith, this can bring sparks that drive a relationship deeper and deeper into meaningful bonding, or the other partner being terrified and fleeing, or what looks like war if the energy is thought in need or corralling. Any power struggle in our lives reflect power struggles inside us, and so the remedy for these situations is to alter the relationship one has with his or her self.

If Lilith is accepted by each partner in a relationship and she is free to come out, new levels of earthy, primal and instinctual approaches to all parts of a relationship are possible. We look to Mars to understand the heat of a relationship, but Lilith in conversation with Venus will add some instinctual and irrational flavors to the sensual side of the relationship, which can seem to push us into Martian territory. I write "seem" because it is different. The Venusian side of desire is magnetic, drawing us to be close to others. Lilith with Venus can intensify others' draw to us, and shift the kinds of people we're drawn to. If a Lilith-Venus person is drawn to something raw in another who does not express that rawness, there can be a misconnection or a waking up of the other person's wild side. Healing with Lilith-Venus aspects involves trusting the wild in the self and the accepting the fact that if others are not ready to express theirs, it's to do with their journey and has nothing to do with the native. Again, healing is in allowing ourselves to bring Lilith out as she naturally is, while we accept that others may be afraid to see her in their midst.

The **conjunction** of Lilith to Venus is a fusing of the two energies, investing all Venusian things with Lilith's need to express herself authentically – raw, primal, instinctive and irrational. The creative personas of these people, if allowed air/air time, may be labeled by others as dangerous. Lilith needs to have an active, direct say in who is chosen to interact with personally and socially, and she will also need to be allowed to influence the expression of one's values.

The **sextile** of Lilith to Venus leaves them stimulating each other into action, pushing each other's buttons until a reaction is had. Art, pleasure and relationships will bring up in the person Lilith's responses and concerns, and in turn primal and instinctive behavior will push the person's Venusian buttons, stirring creativity and relating issues. The best strategy with this aspect is to become conscious of the needs of each part of the self so that when one is triggered into Lilith or Venus action, it is not haphazard or desperate but actually serves the evolving needs of the person.

The **square** between these two indicates that each is always driving the other to change. Whenever one of the energies is triggered by an experience, the other has something to say about how it should be approached and dealt with that might not jive with the first. This is the aspect that echoes the friction of tectonic plates. As such, we can know that they will force each other to change. The question becomes how willing we are to participate in the process of change – will we choose the direction and style of that change and grow? Or will we avoid it and feel pushed to change anyway, probably in a direction and style that doesn't work for us?

The **trine** from Lilith to Venus means that they speak the same language and can provide much-needed support and inspiration in expression. But the thing is that whatever one is doing, the other will offer support. It is important to ensure that what each part of the self is doing serves the person, and does not lead into destructive or

careless behavior. This trine can be wonderfully productive in furthering the goals and needs of each one, so these people need to become more conscious of what each part of the self needs and wants in order to really benefit from the Lilith-Venus relationship.

The **opposition** represents a standoff between Lilith and Venus, a confrontation about differing ways of doing the same thing. It can result in an ongoing argument or, if each part of the self can open to the view of the other, a fertile collaboration fed by their differing perspectives. Each part of the self needs to be open to learning from the other.

Mars

Mars is the planet of assertion, action, will, our basic energy drive – what makes us get out of bed in the morning. It also relates to aggression, defense, rescue, and immediate response. Mars rules the fire-in-the-belly side of desire, the immediate flame of desire. And as the planet of announcing one's existence and self-assertion, it also has to do with the formation of personal boundaries.

Lilith in aspect to Mars involves the two in a conversation about how to integrate Mars' urge to action with Lilith's instinctive, primal rawness. If Lilith in a person is unexpressed or shoved down into some subterranean closet, Mars may be inspired to believe he should join her. Active expression of the person's will and feeling of freedom to assert him- or herself will be affected by the degree to which the person has taken on the fear and judgments of others surrounding Lilith energy. As this is on one level about the simple fact of *doing* something – anything – Lilith-like, someone with this aspect will be aware of what has happened to others in his or her environments when behaving in ways that seem to be inspired by Lilith.

With any of these aspects, the way to turn around the conflict or negative manifestations is to make peace with Lilith inside one's self, and become willing to act on what Lilith has to offer. Information gained from analyzing the house, sign and aspect of your Lilith will give clues as to what kind of proactive activities can be pursued to give Lilith a more conscious and more defined place in your life. Healing with Lilith-Mars aspects involves a conscious connection to Lilith, requiring time with the self to reconnect with the primal, raw, instinctive, and irrational side. Expressing Lilith, even if in natal aspect with Mars, does not have to be violent or disruptive.

The person with this aspect must become willing to take action in his or her life with consideration of Lilith's needs and perspective. Lilith's natural wisdom needs to be admitted into consciousness and allowed to inform the person's active expression of will and desire. Overcoming conditioning that Lilith is to be feared needs to take place, and this can be done with an honest look at one's self and a conscious release of the negative judgments of others that have been accepted as truth.

This will involve a new kind of connection with, and expression of sexuality. The desire nature needs space and time made for it to develop new ways to express itself. In what ways has the person with this aspect allowed his or her sexual desire to be shamed by others, resulting in a retreat from free expression that desire? The answer to this question will give the person with this aspect a direct route into the suppressed side and will name the ways of being that the native must pursue on the healing path.

The evolutionary intention of this aspect is to learn to integrate the natural expression of the will and desire function of a person with a wild expression, to allow the inner animal to steer the outward behavior. It's true that it will challenge others who witness the person's Mars behavior, and yet this person has come in pre-wired to learn to show others what an honest and direct expression of wild desire is.

The **conjunction** of Mars and Lilith represents a joining of the two energies. The self-assertion function and drive will work in tandem with the raw, primal, instinctive, irrational side. If Lilith is a conscious part of the native's personality and life, the conjunction will add a raw visceral flavor to all Martian expression. Mars is already physical and is analogous to fire and the body's chemical fire, adrenaline, and Lilith echoes and underscores the spontaneous sparks that healthy expressions of Mars represent, yet with an intensity that may make others uncomfortable.

The **sextile** of these two energies triggers each of them into action, stimulating the movement of energy that healthy expression of each requires. When either energy is triggered in this person, the other will be activated. The perspective of each can trigger the other into new levels of expression if the person chooses to act with consciousness of what each part of the self needs. If not, the triggered action can be of the knee-jerk variety, leaving the person feeling that these energies are curses, unable to see how to channel the energy in positive ways.

The **square** between these two energies indicates friction between the urge to action and the instinctive, primal, irrational, wild side. Any square can result in releases of energy analogous to an earthquake – the shifting of tectonic plates to relieve pressure that may have been building for a long time. With these two, there are two different kinds of fire in argument over appropriate expression of that fire. The person with this square needs to learn proactive, creative, healthy ways to express this friction to keep him- or herself out of the kinds of unconscious reactions related to either energy. Conscious, healthy, and honest explorations of sexuality and the expression of will are two routes to relieving the tension of the square that support growth and healing.

The **trine** between Lilith and Mars tells us that they can work in tandem because they speak the same language – but can they learn to come out in the open and work together in healthy ways? Or are they conspiring under the surface, building up fiery energy in the psyche and body, threatening to boil? If you can allow them to work together, they can help each other find appropriate and healthy ways to move their energies and contribute to your life. Avoid letting any anger carried with your Mars feed any resentment from suppression carried with your Lilith – always work toward positive ends, figuring out how they can work together toward positive ends.

The **opposition** represents a confrontation between these two energies that can seem an internal stalemate, manifesting externally as power struggles between the part of the argument (Mars or Lilith) that the person feels most aligned with, and others who agree to play the other part. These two differing ideas of how to manage the person's fire and expression of will represent two sides of a coin, and the challenge here can be to let each show the other what it can't see in itself. It does not have to be a battle that prevents each from finding healthy expression.

Jupiter

Jupiter is the planet of expansion, risk, hope, and belief, and relates to our imagination and intuition. Where Jupiter is in the natal chart, a person will be inspired to be in some way big, and challenged to continually find ways to expand and stretch out into new territory.

With Jupiter in natal aspect to the true Black Moon Lilith, there's an internal conversation about how much one can risk believing in and expressing the wild inside. It's about how safe it is to trust, to believe in, the instinctive wisdom Lilith offers. With a Lilith-Jupiter aspect, a person can have been judged and punished for expressing his or her hopeful or expansive nature, and if the fear from others is internalized as a negative judgment about the value of the person's Jupiterian experience and expression, Lilith can go into hiding.

The sense of largeness of this person, of gusto to enjoy life, his or her *joviality*, will be affected by having taken on the fears of others as definitive judgments of the worth of his or her Jupiter energy, and of his or her worth in general. Jupiter relates to hope, and this person can experience an ongoing sense of deflation of optimism, seemingly with nothing to be done about it. The source of this deflation is as deep as the unconscious emotional wounding of a person's Lilith. Inside such a person, there's an innate understanding that this part of him or her exists, yet he or she will refuse to bring it out for fear of censure and punishment by others.

Jupiter's intuitive knowing function is also affected. This function serves us as a guidance system, helping us to navigate life when the intellect alone can't tell us all we need to know. Lilith represents a visceral knowing, and these two bodies together make a statement about the potential of a powerful means of non-intellectual knowing, if the person can come to trust it.

Healing with a Lilith-Jupiter aspect centers on regaining trust in one's gut knowing, as well as the trust of one's body that the feedback it provides is a valuable source of information about the world and one's place in it. A person with one of these aspects needs to experience Lilith in a big way, which will be visible, and so the trust of the self must be established or regained so that the person can take it with him or her more into daily life.

The evolutionary intention of any of these aspects is to regain the sense of trust in the intuitive mind's and body's relationship as a joint life navigation system, and to regain the willingness to risk hopefulness about the possibilities that can result from bringing your primal wisdom into the world. Your sense of hope, risk and expansion is tied to your primal self, your visceral knowing of who and what you are. Allowing these two energies to work together facilitates a new level of relating to the world and your body as an instrument of the wild in the world, living in the world while bringing the wild back into it.

The **conjunction** of Jupiter and Lilith indicates a fusing of the energies in a person. The expansive, intuitive side will be joined with the wild, instinctive, primal side. In a sense, anything this person does that's big or risky will carry inside it the energy of the raw and primal. Most others will automatically fear any such activities or offerings from this person, and he or she can edit all of Jupiter's inspiration out of his or her life, opting for a dullish way of living over the censure and punishment of others.

The **sextile** will put these two energies in a triggering relationship with each other. Any Jupiter experiences will stir Lilith, and vice versa. This can feel like being poked in the ribs until one responds, or tickled – one can only take so much until something needs to be done in response. The opportunity is in allowing the information each provides to feed the other, having an ongoing dialogue that can take one into to deeper levels of connecting with the instinctive wisdom of the whole being.

The **square** indicates a friction between the intuitive knowing of Jupiter and visceral experience of life of Lilith. They'll drive each other to change, and the more consciousness you can have of what each has to offer you, the better position you'll be in to allow their argument to positively affect you. This aspect can seem a constant criticism from each to the other: "You're doing it wrong! Do it this way instead." They each have a perspective that can't take in the whole picture, and you need to allow their dynamic interaction to change each other, thereby allowing you to benefit from their ongoing dialogue.

The **trine** means they're in a supportive dialogue with each other, whether Lilith is hiding or not. They speak the same language, and can help each other because they share a perspective about how and why things should be done. Learn to see them as allies that can help you integrate each of their perspectives for positive use in your life. Choose not to let them agree to slip together into complacency about how things are going, or laziness, but stay aware of how their perspectives can help each other grow.

The **opposition** can feel like a standoff of these two perspectives. Each can see the other fully, and will have something to say that can be taken either as demeaning or belittling, or as constructive criticism. Check to see which of these two you're experiencing, and understand that releasing the negative judgments of others in your past is the key to allowing you to experience these two energies in healthy ways (you will have manifested Jupiterian figures to tell you that Lilith is bad, and to urge or force you to keep your Lilith quiet).

Saturn

Saturn is the planet of structure, maturity, authority, discipline, delayed gratification, and work. Where it is our natal chart shows us where we have work to do in this life, to figure out how to develop healthy expressions of the above ideas.

As the planet associated with how society is put together, Saturn also relates to conditioning, how we have been formed into productive members of any groups to which we've belonged at times in our lives: family, school, religious organizations, nation, work, etc.

Lilith in aspect to Saturn creates a conversation between the raw, primal, irrational and instinctive side of us and this heavy planet, the planet of structure, restriction and limitation. Much will depend on the aspect and the signs and houses involved, but the general tenor of the conversation between them is about what kind of Lilith-inspired expression is acceptable, and what part of it (if any) will be permitted. In many people this will look like a conversation between the urge for expressive freedom and the need to have socially appropriate controls.

As the archetype of social order, Saturn is the archetype most opposed to Lilith. People behaving precisely how they're viscerally guided in any moment is the single biggest threat to the law and order Saturn aims to build and maintain. Consequently, people with an aspect between these two energies will seem to struggle more than most to find out who Lilith is and how to honor her as part of the self. The level of struggling will be tied up in the degree to which the individual has taken on the judgments of others about him- or herself for carrying Lilith energy.

Whatever the aspect, the conversation between these two energies can seem a personal, microcosmic summit on one of our culture's most important questions: What is the place of the primal in us? I'm not down on Saturnian energy or what it aims to do or does do, but we as individuals, and then as a collective, need to learn that Saturnian energy isn't all there is. The answer to Saturn traditionally is Uranus, the planet of freedom and the breaking of limitations. Yet at this stage in our collective evolution, Uranus isn't the only answer. Uranus as the liberator is the anti-Saturn, and I view Lilith as an equally important energy to cultivate, reflecting that if we are not connected to ourselves-as-nature, we will not connect meaningfully and personally with the need to take better care of ourselves and the planet. An important note is that Uranus is a mental planet, and Lilith connects us to the physical world.

As the archetype of the authority figure, Saturn also relates to one part of our parenting. A Lilith-Saturn aspect could indicate a specific parent or parental figure in an individual's life, and relationships with authority figures in general. The person could have a history of being judged and punished by Saturnian types, at home, school, work and elsewhere. There are two extreme results to such treatment: learning that Lilith is bad and stuffing the energy to where it gets no air/air time, and exploding with irrational, instinctive rage in rebellion against attempts at suppression.

If the response is to get quiet to avoid punishment, the individual can develop into someone feeling less than fully alive. If the other response is chosen, the individual runs the risk of being severely punished for transgressing the rules of the status quo.

This perspective on Lilith aims to show these people how to channel Lilith's energy to more conscious and creative expressions that are not merely violence as a response to violence – this solves nothing, to which anyone who's chosen this expression (or found themselves in the middle of) can attest.

With a Lilith-Saturn aspect, maturity and structure in Lilith expression is called for. In a sense, this has to do with learning to choose one's battles while also picking or creating the right kind of turf on which to have them. The urge to explode and the resulting violence of giving in to Lilith's anger does not have to create havoc. With this aspect, you've signed up to figure out how to learn to grow in your Lilith expression by introducing structure and form to it, thereby enabling the development of maturity. Along the way, healing of all wounds related to having been judged and punished for carrying Lilith's energy, or being her outwardly, is required. For anyone with difficult and painful histories of interacting with Saturnian energy, the healing includes becoming a Saturnian figure. These people need to develop their own versions of Saturnian expression, ones rooted in personal relevance. And with a Lilith-Saturn aspect, relevance means incorporating Lilith into the structures of one's life in positive, pro-active, creative ways.

Saturn **conjunct** Lilith indicates a merging of the two energies, bringing structure and form to Lilith's energy or dragging it down into a lightless, expressionless existence, depending on whether Lilith is hidden or out in the open. You must learn to express them in combination, and accept each other's nature. It will seem like a misfit pair, but it can work as long as one's Lilith expression is grounded in reality and the inner Saturn part – by default harsh critic and judge – enlarges its idea of appropriate.

The **sextile** tells us that these two energies trigger and feed off each other. When the authority/discipline function of a person is triggered, Lilith's instinctual and primal energy will be activated and vice versa. One will activate the other with insistence until the other reacts, until it does something from the stimulation. The trick is in becoming conscious of what we choose to do, whether Lilith is triggering Saturn or the other way around.

The **square** between these two energies brings friction and a tension that needs some kind of resolution. Lilith and Saturn in this aspect drive each other to change, which can be experienced as positive or negative depending on conditioning and the choices one makes and how he or she chooses to think of what happens to him or her. Each has a criticism for the other: "You are doing it wrong!" (No matter what is being done). They have differing ways of approaching things and therefore criticize each other. The solution is that each become willing to learn from the other.

The **trine** indicates that in some way, they speak the same language and can find ways to get along, offering each other support for better or worse. If Lilith is hiding, Saturn will say, "That's probably a good idea." If she is not, Saturn might offer, "Hmm, if you're going to do something, I'd like to offer my perspective on making it better and more efficient." The trick with this trine is to make sure that what each is up to is for your own good, as these two will support each other no matter what it is – positive and healthy, or negative and unhealthy.

The **opposition** between Lilith and Saturn brings a confrontation, an argument about freedom versus control. If Lilith is not stomped and kicked out of the way, she can teach Saturn much about what it means to experience nature and natural ways of being, modes that Saturn resists and fears because they cannot be controlled. Saturn can teach Lilith mature ways of creating appropriate times and places to express the wild, instinctive side.

Chiron

Chiron in a natal chart represents in what arena of life we carry a wound and feelings of rejection that seem impossible to heal but we can use to help others when we shift out of victim consciousness into a particular kind and level of maturity based in self-responsibility. This energy brings a sensitization to the pain of others, and also indicates mastery. This is because what we do with ourselves when we feel rejected is something we usually become very good at, given the sensitivity we have toward the feelings from experiencing it. The symbolism of the wound is that of our mastery, and it takes the shift in consciousness out of victimhood to see it and how to use it.

Natal Lilith-Chiron aspects involve the two bodies in a conversation about susceptibility to the impact of others' opinions of and reactions to us. Each energy represents a part of us that can in a way be an antenna for social stigma and the related hurt, while each also represents a personal means of self-empowerment just waiting to be tapped into and developed, if we can accept responsibility for our lives. With each we can choose to honor our particular ways of seeing the world and thereby move into a stance of deeper connection to life, able to offer more of our unique gifts. Chiron brings to Lilith the ability to empathize with others in their fear of the wild, and Lilith can share with Chiron a visceral and instinctual approach to understanding the inner realities of self and others.

Whatever the aspect, healing with Lilith-Chiron involves admitting into consciousness the deepest sorts of wounding and rejection that people can experience. With any of them, we might be attuned more than most to the suffering of others and yet suspect that doing something about it may get us into trouble. People, after all, don't tend to appreciate their wounds being made public, and even less if someone like Lilith is involved. And even if we don't know what to do about what we admit into consciousness, allowing a change in consciousness will lead to us seeing how to allow changes in our day-to-day lives naturally, an adverb favored by both Lilith and Chiron.

Chiron brings to Lilith an understanding of healing the self once how to help others heal is had. Lilith can share with Chiron a new perspective on what it means to be connected to nature. As we've seen, Lilith remains connected to her primal self even as it means being punished for doing so. Chiron is a centaur, half man and half horse, leaving him connected to the natural world in a direct and visible way. The centaurs are a group of wild beasts always getting into trouble because of their wildness, and Chiron is one of them in form and name, yet is not like them and not accepted fully by them. He's civilized while they are not, and Lilith can help him reconnect with his wild roots. Lilith's primal side works itself from the inside out, and Chiron's is seen to be external, and it can be assumed that he's wild, too. Chiron, however, in his civility and rational approach to life, must learn to reconnect with the irrational and instinctive. This makes the conversation between them also about reality versus appearances, and about the assumptions we believe we can make about others in terms of their inner worlds.

The Lilith-Chiron **conjunction** blends the two energies, making their expressions tied to one another. If Lilith is under the radar and we fear repercussions for expressing her, we will resist learning to shift our Chironic energy into a place of self-responsibility as long as possible. In other words, if we clamp down on our

Lilith expression, we prevent our Chiron from having a chance to mature into self-responsibility and vice-versa.

The **sextile** has them in a conversation that stimulates each other's action. It can manifest as egging each other on, whether the result is positive or negative. This can feel like one poking the other in the ribs until action is taken – we can feel it just needs to stop and so we will get into action to try anything to achieve it. They can also stir each other to new and more authentic levels of expression, or they can stir each other to do what looks like make more and more trouble, depending on a person's orientation to the two energies.

The **square** between the two energies indicates that they pressure each other to act. Squares always represent differing opinions on why things should be done, and it can have a feeling of a critical "whatever you're doing, you're doing it wrong." In the person in whom Lilith is hiding and the responsibility for Chironic healing has not been taken, the result can be the two energies pushing each other to create situations of wounding and rejection to try to make true the idea that others mean to harm us. In someone who has begun to shift her Chironic perspective and is ready to learn to integrate Lilith in her life in a positive, proactive and creative way, the square can manifest as creating situations in which growth opportunities related to expressing Lilith-Chiron are created on a regular basis, even if often uncomfortable.

The **trine** indicates that they speak the same language, and will boost or support each other in speaking up or in staying quiet. If speaking up is chosen, Chiron's sensitivity in combination with Lilith's forthrightness can have profound effects on the healing processes of the self and of others, showing a deep connection and return to natural ways of being, something all healing requires.

The **opposition** tells us of a confrontation between the two energies, with the conversation between them one of differing approaches to expression. The highest possibility of the opposition is that the two energies can contribute to each other's understanding, recognizing the difference in opinion, and learning from each other – in a sense, putting their heads together as much as is possible. Lower possibilities to avoid include allowing each part of the self to prevent the other from expressing itself, which can happen if they are locked into an argument and cycles of criticizing or threatening each other.

Uranus

Uranus represents our capacity for and orientation to individuation, originality, breaking free from restrictive modes of being, and expressing our unique, innate genius.

With Lilith in aspect to Uranus, a person's urge to break out of confining situations and seek freedom to develop his or her own natural sense of uncompromising individuality is involved with Lilith in a conversation about the importance of freedom and the repercussions of breaking away from any group in order to be free. The conversation also involves a note on when it is appropriate to break free, and what reasons create a situation necessary to break out on one's own into a new, independent way of life.

Uranus takes a mental stance to freedom, while Lilith relates to the idea with her whole being, manifesting visceral feelings when needing to break free. A Lilith-Uranus aspect can lend objectivity to Lilith and a physical connectedness to the rest of the being to Uranus. Each can deny the need to break away until inner urgency builds to the point of boiling over and there is no longer any choice. The breaks associated with each are sudden and surprising for those in our environments. And each energy, when we live it in quiet, seems pliable and conforming. The inner explosions we experience as breaks with either energy prove this not the case, but we sometimes must experience the pliability and conformity in order to learn the importance of our need to break away and be free, authentic, self-determining individuals.

If Lilith is hiding in the person because of negative experiences in the past, the Uranian function of the person will also be under the surface, expecting to be punished for expressing the urge to create freedom. The repression of Uranus in a person with this aspect will be determined by the depth to which he or she has internalized the judgments and censure of others in the past, whether in this life or prior lives. If the conversation about freedom and the right ways to approach and achieve it is under the surface, the native with this aspect will again and again find him or herself in situations and relationships wherein his or her needs are not accounted for, and wherein he or she is to some degree invisible.

When Lilith in the person with this aspect is not hiding, we might see someone who is in touch with what the inner animal needs in order to be free enough from the constraints of others to pursue and inhabit the most authentic kind of way of being possible. This is the energy of the maverick, but depending on other chart factors, the person won't necessarily be isolated or a hermit. But he or she will connect instinctively with what structures and conforming urges in the environment do and don't work for him or her.

Healing with the Lilith-Uranus aspect involves making time and space to explore the desires and needs for freedom that exist in the person. Each of us contains the Uranian need for freedom, and with a Lilith-Uranus aspect, the need for free and open space and time to reconnect with Lilith is doubly important. How this person is naturally inclined to seek freedom needs to be learned to be honored and integrated.

Also, each of these energies is a marker of trauma in the birth chart. Uranus involved with the karmic story (analysis of the nodal structure of the birth chart) can be an indicator of some form of prior-life trauma, and Lilith can show where we've manifested sexual trauma as we explore various ways of learning about expressing our wild selves. Healing when it comes to trauma of any kind begins with accepting

that everything that happens to us is a necessary contributor to the experiences we seek as souls embodied in human bodies. If Uranus and Lilith in your chart do in fact indicate where it is that you've experienced trauma of one kind or another, your healing must begin with this acceptance of responsibility, so you can see the higher purpose your soul has for manifesting those kinds of experiences.

With Lilith in aspect to Uranus, you have the evolutionary intention of reclaiming your ability to shape your innate conception of what it means to be free with Lilith's primal, instinctive wisdom. You've signed up to navigate the confines of normative reality in order to learn what does and doesn't work for your most authentic self, and then to break free of it to create a brand new way of being free. But part of your agreement to do this is in reconnecting with the primal wisdom inside you, which has always been there. There is an evolutionary imperative to create the right kinds of and enough freedom for yourself to inhabit all layers of your being with a natural sense of alignment with the wisdom and processes of nature.

The **conjunction** of Lilith to Uranus indicates a fusing of the two energies, bringing their voices together. One cannot operate without the other. If Lilith has been conditioned to hide, this can mean that Uranus hides, too. If healing the external judgments about being Lilith has taken place, it can mean a full-steam-ahead kind of expression of each energy.

The **sextile** indicates that they trigger each other. When one is activated by experience or other people, the other will spring into action as much as the individual's openness to freedom will allow. They can egg each other on to choose action, so it is important to ensure that what action is taken with each is consciously chosen. If not, we can get ourselves into cycles of reactivity that lead us nowhere. Consciousness of one's needs regarding both Lilith and Uranus is paramount with this aspect.

The **square** of Lilith to Uranus speaks to a friction between the two energies. Inner tension can build up over time between the need to be free and the hesitation to break free, which is inspired by fear of repercussion. These two energies are akin to tectonic plates within the person's psyche. Eventually, any square will force change to occur, as the unstable relationship between the two energies inevitably gives way to relieve the tension. The best strategy is to choose to change at regular intervals, periodically releasing the tension in conscious, healthy ways instead of waiting for the earthquake to occur out of one's control.

A **trine** between the two energies indicates that they share a vocabulary, whether they are openly expressed or hidden deep in the shadows of the psyche. If Lilith is suppressed, Uranus will support that level of hiding. If Lilith is admitted into consciousness and allowed to be part of one's conscious life, the two can enable each other to further their goals and meet their needs – they're on the same team, after all.

The **opposition** tells of an internal standoff between the two voices, with each having an understanding of appropriate expression that is counter to that of the other. In time, this opposition between the two energies can be allowed to inform each of the other's position, stimulating growth in the perspective of each. Before this work is done, however, the opposition can look like a stalemate wherein neither energy will allow the other enough room or leeway to express itself naturally. It can be that the caution each offers the other is taken to be an injunction against any expression at all.

Neptune

Neptune in the birth chart represents our individual means of connecting with realties outside the confines of our usual understanding of space-time. This includes spiritual dimensions, the realms of dreams and fantasy, mysticism, inspired creativity, and escapist behavior of all kinds, whether good for us or not.

Lilith in aspect to Neptune involves the two energies in a conversation about the positive and negative possibilities of connecting to levels of reality not endorsed by the normative mainstream, the Saturnian environment in which we all find ourselves. It's the method of directly connecting to greater realities that's been judged in the person by others, and for which he or she has been punished.

If Lilith in a person is not out in the open, but hiding to avoid punishment for expressing this part of the self, the person will manifest a disconnect with the whole being by denying the possibility of or blocking access to these other realms. Neptune in us can manifest as a longing to connect to something on another plane, something we might call "higher," larger than or beyond ourselves. Our conception of the Divine, and how we connect with what we think it is, is something we will hinder for fear of repercussion.

If healing surrounding Lilith wounding and fears is done, the native with this aspect can give an inspiring example of what it means to connect with the natural world and its cycles as an expression of the Divine. Conscious work with Lilith reconnects us to the natural world, reminding us of the primal rhythms of our bodies as they relate to those of the natural world around us. Connecting to Lilith when there's a Lilith-Neptune aspect presents the possibility of tuning in to the natural world as a site of the greater reality, allowing us to situate ourselves beyond the norm. Doing this changes our context, allowing for a Neptunian refiguring of what it means to be human and a being on Earth.

Whatever the aspect, healing with a Lilith-Neptune aspect will involve creating time and space in which the natural sense of connectedness with all of creation can be experienced without the input and feedback of others, until a solid footing in one's natural sense of doing this is established. A personal relationship with the internal wild Divine must be developed, so that the natural sense of connectedness to other realities can be informed by Lilith's primal, instinctive direction.

If you have this aspect, you have the evolutionary intention of reconnecting with the wild by accessing realms of consciousness outside the normative, consensus reality in which we're conditioned as we grow up to be productive members of groups and societies. Your challenge in healing your history of suppression and punishment for exploring ways of being and bringing Lilith into the world, and your opportunity is in reconnecting to an utterly natural version of the Divine that recognizes and incorporates more than what can be seen with the naked eye or felt with just the heart.

The **conjunction** of Lilith and Neptune fuses the energy. If Lilith is undercover in the person with the conjunction, Neptune will be buried behind a wall of fear of connecting with anything outside the standard understanding of time-space-based reality. To open to other realities, the fear says, is to lose control – and that cannot be allowed to happen. Opening to Neptune means opening to Lilith and vice versa.

The **sextile** of the two energies brings a conversation about how to use the connection to what is understood as the Divine to stir the connection to the instinctive, primal self, and vice versa. If Lilith is under the surface, the two in sextile can inspire

each to even deeper levels of avoiding expression. With conscious awareness, the sextile presents the opportunity for each energy to be triggered into growth by allowing the perspective of one to excite the other.

The Lilith-Neptune **square** indicates a friction between the way a person connects to something outside him- or herself and the instinctive, primal, irrational self. They push each other, requiring each other to change. In those in whose lives Lilith is allowed to participate consciously, the two energies can have a mutually-beneficial conversation of alternate methods precisely because they differ in how they get things done. The highest potential is that the perspective of each is taken as a valuable voice in creative change relative to the two energies in a person's life.

The **trine** has the two energies in some sort of support, whether expressed or not. If Lilith is suppressed in a person, the trine can manifest as a dialogue about how there's no need to work to express either energy out in the open. If however Lilith is expressed outwardly, Lilith and Neptune can teach each other and boost each other's expression, in that they speak the same language and are on the same team.

The **opposition** represents a confrontation between the two energies and how they choose to work. The less-conscious result is that neither is expressed because of the disagreement. The more-conscious result is that they learn how to listen to each other and both perspectives, even though at odds, can exist in the person's consciousness and have something useful to contribute.

Pluto

Pluto represents the deepest wounding to the soul as well as the deepest desires and intentions of the soul. These combine to describe the soul's empowerment journey over many lives. Related to the empowerment process over time are all issues of power and fear, and the realm of Pluto in a person is deep – as deep as any of us go. The desire here is of the unconscious kind, driving us without our conscious awareness. The wounding of Pluto also drives us, often causing us to shape our choices and behavior in order to avoid repeating the pain also wrapped up in our experience of this energy.

With Lilith in aspect to Pluto, the two are engaged in a conversation about the risks and rewards of going for what we truly want at the deepest level, given the resistance and backlash we've risked in the past when we did what's right for us. Each energy can hold its hand close to its chest, not revealing anything that could be used against it, being deeply in touch with the pain possible when the wrong people are given access to our most intimate selves. In aspect to each other, they seem to be comparing notes of the consequences of action and what's worth going for.

Pluto is a driving force in our lives, representing our deepest desires and intentions and our deepest fears. Lilith in aspect to Pluto brings a need for primal, irrational creativity to those desires and fears. If Lilith is hidden for fear of retribution for the content or style of expression, the desires of the person might also be hidden, being wrapped up with Lilith**.** Most of us spend a long time delaying dealing with our Pluto fears and wounding in order to get to the point where we can begin work to manifest our desires, and with Lilith added to the equation we can wait even longer. It may also add an urgency to the perceived need to protect one's self from further instances of wounding, or an urgency in going for what one most deeply desires. If Lilith in the person is not hiding but is openly expressed, Pluto can lend a feeling of total investment to Lilith's primal wisdom, aims, and concerns. Pluto doesn't do anything halfway, and a conversation between these two energies can intensify the feeling and urge to action of each.

The Plutonian soul desires and intentions of a person, outlined by house, sign and aspect, are important for any of us to learn to manifest. The energy of transformation represented by Pluto offers us a critical key to a major reason we come here at all to incarnate: To learn how to change. The foundation of evolutionary astrology is that people change, over the course of a single life and over the courses of many lives. While all the planetary energies we speak of in astrology are unique to the experience of being born on the Earth, Pluto seems a key to advancing along the soul's journey on this plane and in this place.

With a Lilith-Pluto aspect, then, a person has the evolutionary intention to connect with Lilith on the deepest levels, and to manifest as his or her most important work in the world, his or her gift of soul to the world, a reclamation of the wild nature that each of us possesses. A Lilith-Pluto aspect speaks to reconnecting the soul to the natural wisdom and primal methods of the natural world. For those with this aspect, the challenge lies in healing the Plutonian wounding in order to make this reconnection, and to allow that healing to be informed by an orientation to the processes of nature foreign to the kinds of collective realities we've created over the last few thousand years.

If the Lilith-Pluto person engages in this reconnection, he or she can be a powerful force in his or her community or the world, offering an example of soul empowerment by connecting to the deepest levels of self, and bringing into the world in a passion for redefining our idea of change with reconnection to the natural cycles of life and the primal wisdom of the natural world.

The Lilith-Pluto **conjunction** will have the two energies fused, merged – inseparable. The deepest desires and wounding of the soul are part and parcel of Lilith's suppression and desire for authentic, raw, primal living. For the person to be empowered as a human, fears of being overpowered when behaving naturally as a Lilith figure need to be healed and overcome. The way the self is wired must be honored, and the self must be loved no matter what. True soul empowerment with this aspect demands self-honor and self-love of the deepest kind.

The **sextile** indicates that they trigger each other, Lilith urging Pluto to mobilize and Pluto urging Lilith to erupt into authenticity with a powerful nudge. The trick is in ensuring that they trigger each other into healthy action that serves the evolution of the person with this aspect. All anger about repression and shaming the natural wild self (related to Lilith) and all pain related to feeling not strong enough to live as one wishes (related to Pluto) need to be addressed, processed, and healed in order to ensure that Lilith and Pluto are not pushing each other to unconscious, fear- or anger-based action that is ultimately damaging to self and other.

The Lilith-Pluto **square** is an argument full of criticisms about how the other one is and chooses to express, and there will have to be a release of the tension here. The two tectonic plates in question are the unconscious will/deepest soul desires and the connection to the primal wild. When that tension is released, one or both of the energies is bound to come to the surface and be an obvious influence on one's behavior. The question becomes how conscious one is willing to become about what's truly going on, to ensure that the active expression is as healthy and honoring of one's self as can be. All anger, shame, disempowerment, and resentment related to each energy must be felt, processed, and healed in order to get these two on a healthy same page that will benefit a person's evolution.

The **trine** has them able to work together, speaking the same language, supporting each other in their pursuits. Whether these are made manifest or public or not, whether positive or not, the ability for the two to relate and support each other's expression is present – again, whether expressed or not, whether positive or not. If a person is resentful about being suppressed (related to Lilith) and angry that he or she has not felt strong enough to stand up to life's hard times (Pluto), they can support each other in bitterness and anger. If however the person with this aspect can heal the pain, anger, shame, and resentment that can come when either of these two energies are experienced in the negative, wonderful growth opportunities are waiting.

The **opposition** is a confrontation between the two energies, with each having different ways of seeing how to go about doing things. At best they will share their perspectives with each other and learn about authenticity, expression, and how to deeply inhabit one's desires, and in less-conscious times it can be a power struggle that can instill doubt about the merits of each. Those with this aspect need to learn to honor both the deep desires of Pluto and the need for unfettered freedom and authenticity of Lilith.

Ascendant-Descendant

Lilith in aspect to the Ascendant-Descendant axis shows a conversation about how one's self-definition and style of relating to others is informed by Lilith. The Ascendant as the beginning of the 1st house indicates how we show ourselves and go about making the statement that we exist. The Descendant is the beginning of the 7th house, indicating how we interact with others and what kind of others we're drawn to. Whatever aspects one of these angles aspects the other, so it's a conversation always in the making. What they have to discuss is their differing opinions about what constitutes boundaries between self and other, when they're necessary, and how to go about creating them.

When Lilith aspects this axis, Lilith's primal, unchecked, irrational energy informs our relationships with self and others. Her raw openness is in the native and confronts others. If Lilith in a person is quiet, having been shooed under the rug or stuffed in a closet, there will be a dampened experience and expression of this axis in general. The fear of being treated harshly will override the recognition of one's natural expressive needs and how he or she initiates relationship and relates to others. If Lilith in a person is not hidden, his or her self-other dynamics will be infused with some statements from Lilith, and this can seem like having a point to make either in making the statement of being Lilith or in finding her in other people. What this is like will depend on how the native uses his or her Lilith energy: Does this person experience the Lilith part of the self as free creativity and passion or as wronged and out for vengeance?

Healing with Lilith-horizon aspects requires looking at what Lilith has to say (by natal house, sign and aspect) and allowing the self-expression and relating style to adjust to include whatever that may be. Aspecting this axis, all of our interactions with others are affected by the level of fear and suppression we may have internalized regarding Lilith's expression. Ultimately, given this aspect, Lilith can be allowed to affect self-expression and how we relate to others with an honesty that can inspire others to respond by finding their own authenticity, and this in time can help weed out any relationships in which we remain, yet are un-served or underserved by relationships that don't reflect and support who we are or are becoming.

Lilith in aspect to this axis can affect how one views his or her body, and this will generate expectations about how others will perceive his or her body. Whether this results in a fear of showing the body to others or an unbridled openness in doing so (or somewhere in between), this person has signed up to learn to integrate what Lilith has to say into the way the physical body is used and experienced. Living out Lilith's themes and interests in and on the body is one possibility of a healthy manifestation of this energy. This would naturally also involve an orientation to seeing and experiencing others' bodies through the lens of Lilith's understanding.

When we allow Lilith to inform how we use and experience our bodies, we allow our bodies to inform our overall living. Attention to the processes and natural cycles of the body are important to reconnect with and honor. Creating experiences that foster a connection to the body as an extension of nature are also important.

Our romantic and sexual relationships are affected by Lilith if we have any of these aspects because if we directly bring Lilith with us or keep finding her in everyone else, there's an intensity and rawness that can be too much for some people around us to handle. But that includes *us*, it's important to note. We might even

be overcome with how raw, primal, and irrational we prove to be when exploring intimacy with another person. As with any aspect that we don't like the outer manifestations of, if we alter our willingness to accept and love ourselves, the outer experiences change. Given the boundary lessons inherent in the Ascendant-Descendant axis, we also have to be willing to learn to choose appropriate partners, those who can be with us as we truly are.

With the **conjunction** to the Ascendant, Lilith is directly present in the personality and style, and in all things having to do with the body. The person will show up as Lilith no matter what he or she does. Others will see this and decide how to respond to the person as a Lilith figure. The simultaneous opposition to the Descendant will bring confrontation in relationship that may look to be power struggles but will in fact represent this person's need to be clear about what kind of relationships he or she is willing to experience. Others will always see this person as Lilith – can he or she make peace with this and bring out Lilith in healthy ways?

With the **sextile** to the Ascendant, the energy of the raw primal self will stimulate how this person shows up. The trine to the Descendant will draw others in to the person's life who have something firm to say about Lilith whether supportive or not. This person needs to let the wisdom of the lower chakras inform how he or she chooses people to be in various kinds of relationship with as well how he or she conducts the self within those relationships. This aspect is a setup to ensure that anyone who can't handle Lilith lets the person know this quickly so he or she can make the right choices when it comes to sharing time and space with others.

The **square** to this axis creates friction when it comes to how and why boundaries are created within relationship. Lilith here is always on guard to teach the person with this aspect to be vigilant about creating the right sorts of boundaries at the right times with the right sorts of people. At times the process can appear to be arguments and conflict but the point is that this person never lets him- or herself get stuck in dynamics that do not allow Lilith to breathe and live freely.

Lilith **trine** the Ascendant offers a boost of energy to the chart holder that can inspire him or her to trust gut instinct when it comes to how much to show the self to others – how much to just be naturally who he or she is. The simultaneous sextile to the Descendant will function to in some way trigger others as a result. This can bring Lilith out in others when the person honors his or her raw, primal side, perhaps revealing to others that a figure like Lilith exists.

The **opposition** from Lilith to the Ascendant brings Lilith energy in the form of others to reflect to the person the truth about his or her style, body, personality, and otherwise how he or she shows up as an individual seen by others. This person needs to integrate what Lilith-like others have to say in order to begin to own Lilith energy within the self. This aspect says that others are needed for the person to be able to see Lilith clearly. The conjunction to the Descendant also says that the person will find Lilith in others. The decision to have positive Lilith experiences needs to be made to ensure that this does not engender conflict, oppression, suppression, and power games whether between genders or not.

Midheaven-Nadir

Lilith in aspect to the Midheaven-Nadir axis involves Lilith in conversation with a person's private and public lives. The Nadir begins the 4th house, the house of home, family, emotional foundations and private self. The Midheaven begins the 10th house, the house of work in the world, our place in that world, and our ambition, status, and reputation. The Nadir represents who we are internally and the Midheaven who we are externally.

What is personal and what is not is the general dialogue between these angles. Adding Lilith to that dialogue can add a stigma to both, making healthy expression of either 4th or 10th house matters hampered.

The potentials will depend on how the person responds to Lilith's energy. If Lilith is hidden, there will be hesitancy about manifesting anything meaningful or of true use involving anything to with this axis. If Lilith is lived actively, the person will experience judgment about being Lilith either in his or her heart, or on a public stage. External judgment will come only to the extent that the person has internalized the fear and harsh criticisms of others.

We all accept this to some degree and up to a point. The healing for someone with this aspect is to learn to integrate Lilith as she exists in the self, as she exists in others in the public sphere, and to truly accept that it's a given that others fear the wild and instinctual side of anyone. Acceptance of Lilith's existence, and a willingness to understand that we all carry her and can develop our sight to learn to see her in others, is called for. This person needs to accept that we all are symbols of something to others, and we usually cannot control what that is. Very often it can have to do our shadow, in that people readily see in us what we refuse to see in ourselves. In this case, for someone with this aspect, a more conscious relationship with one's Lilith energy, and understanding the message she has for us by house, sign and aspect, will reduce the external attention, or at minimum reduce the harsh judgment that comes with it. Being honest about and taking pride in who you are will leave those who wish to belittle you for being it without fuel.

In either case, with Lilith in aspect to this axis, you may feel an historical weight of Lilith issues coming to rest on your shoulders. Your job is to develop a personal relationship with the energy inside you, and allow that your external life will change as a natural result. As you do this, you must overlook the tendency, or temptation, to allow the public-private debate from your history to derail you into unhealthy patterns of rebellion and punishment. Lilith's story as we each live it does not have to end with all our Lilim (the name for her children) perishing.

Lilith aspecting this axis can tell us about the kind of work we're drawn or guided to do. Much will depend on the particular aspect and how Lilith is experienced, but the highest potential with Lilith affecting our work choice is that we come to accept our own Lilith and learn how to bring her out in our public and private lives in authentic and meaningful ways.

Given Lilith's raw, primal energy, we might become for others a symbol of a dangerous sexuality (the kind others fear) that may or may not reflect our true nature. But with Lilith in aspect to this axis, it can be easy for others to categorize us and even make assumptions about us that stem from their fear of the instinctive wild. If we take this personally, we risk engaging with others at a divisive level of dialogue that can get us nowhere but cemented in others' perceptions as the monster they think we are.

If we can accept that others make monsters of what they don't understand and fear about themselves, we're in a far better place. The way to alter the negative external manifestations is to heal whatever judgments of others we've taken on and learn to accept our sexuality and its natural expression. Nothing with Lilith is neat and tidy, and we have to learn to create appropriate circumstances to enable our expression.

If Lilith is **conjunct** the Midheaven, we bring her out in our public life, or we symbolize her for others in a public context. We will show up naturally, without effort and often without awareness until others reflect it to us, as a Lilith figure who threatens to challenge the status quo no matter what we do. With the simultaneous opposition to the Nadir, the private life is opposed by the public experience of Lilith, perhaps erasing a true sense of privacy for someone who's seen publicly to be a Lilith-inspired figure.

The **sextile** from the true BML to the Midheaven can have the person's public role triggered into development as a result of one or more themes associated with Lilith. The person's direct experience of patriarchal suppression or the expression of anger as a result of the consequent pain can drive what that person does in the public sphere and/or for work. Lilith's trine to the Nadir presents the concurrent invitation to ensure that deep feelings are tended to in conscious ways. It might be a challenge for these people to take time to develop and nurture home and family when so much social injustice still exists.

The **square** from Lilith to this axis indicates that this person will experience pressure to change how home and work are approached through day-to-day realities associated with Lilith's themes. The line between what is public and private can be blurred or erased by the need to respond to Lilith figures in one's life or as a Lilith figure in personal and public relationship with others. The square invites the person to engage in Lilith-related ways of being with compassion and to allow public and private to grow as a result of increased awareness of how Lilith's issues affect us as we live her stories in the world.

With Lilith **trine** the Midheaven there will naturally be a supportive flow between the person's inner instinctive wild and relationship to Lilith themes that informs his or her public persona. Whether the energy of Lilith is acknowledged and embraced or hidden and feared is up to the person with this aspect. It is possible for this person's outer self or place at work and in the community to evolve as a result of Lilith's regular input and it is also possible that work and place in the community are used as vehicles to hide and shame her. The sextile to the Nadir represents triggering and stimulation between home, family, and the person's inner world to his or her Lilith. Openness, honesty, and respect are necessary to ensure that this does not come in the form of arguments and fights.

The **opposition** of Lilith to the Midheaven may have this person unsure how to admit the existence of Lilith and have a place for him- or herself in the world. When this person digs deep and concern over the potential reactions of others is not a factor, Lilith will be found. This person needs to be willing to be true to the self no matter what, even in the face of criticism from others seeming powerful and who appear able to edit this person's public role or persona. The simultaneous conjunction of the Nadir to Lilith says that Lilith is also found at home and in the family the person was born to and/or raised by. Lilith here needs to be accepted as a member of the family, and this might mean that family structure and boundaries might need to be periodically revisited in the spirit of honoring and respecting how people change over time.

The Nodes of the Moon

The Lunar nodes in our chart indicate two things:

1. what modes and styles of living we bring in from our past lives and are very familiar with (South Node), and modes and
2. styles we haven't done much of and are challenged in this life to develop, representing new territory into which we might grow to advance in our evolution (North Node).

The South Node of the Moon holds our emotional memories, these being the only kind that we bring with us into this life from other lives. Our emotional orientation to life serves as the backdrop to everything that happens to us. This symbolism of our emotional history can tell us a great deal of information about what a person expects the world to be like, given that he or she has experienced previous lives in certain kinds of places, with certain kinds of things going on.

The South Node represents our habits, our comfort zone – usually how we'd like to be and remain. It's not that it's always a happy, healthy place that's good for us, but it's familiar, and familiarity is comforting. With Lilith in aspect to the nodes, where we come from & our comfort zone include some sort of experience of Lilith's themes.

Whatever the aspect to the Nodes, healing Lilith will involve overcoming our reliance on habit and learning to make new choices regarding how we use Lilith energy. New levels of creativity and authenticity, and a greater integration of this part of us that rooted in instinctual, raw, primal and irrational expression are called for.

The **conjunction** to the South Node indicates that Lilith was a major influence in the environments of our karmic past. Whether openly acknowledged or not, the energy saturated those environments. With this aspect, we carry in Lilith's energy in our storehouse of emotional memories, and are therefore very familiar with expressions of Lilith's themes and energy. We come in knowing all sides of Lilith, and how she's received by others, intimately. This could be primarily as a suppressed energy that comes with resentment or rage, or a healthy expression of the wild, instinctive, irrational energy – or a mixture of the two. Either way, we've "majored" in Lilith in the karmic past. The growth challenge for anyone is to learn to step out from the symbolism of the South Node, the comfort zone, taking what they are familiar with and do very well into new territory, symbolized by the North Node. With Lilith on the South Node, the challenge is to take the best of what we know about Lilith and her connection to the natural wild within and not remain stuck in cycles of suppression, abuse, resentment, rage, and even revenge that can come with karmic baggage related to Lilith.

With a **sextile** to the South Node and a trine to the North Node, there's a stimulating and supporting energy affecting the nodal axis. In this position, situations and people representing Lilith in the karmic past triggered into action or offered support for what was happening around the native. Remember that stimulation and support aren't always good. We can be stimulated into hasty or unplanned action or accidents, and we can be supported in developing hurtful behaviors, complacency, and laziness.

The **square** of Lilith to the nodes tells of a need to learn new expressions related to Lilith's themes. Squares to the nodes indicate that new choices need to be explored to resolve a feeling from the karmic past of the energy being an unresolved issue. We used the energy, or experienced it, but the choices we made (by either volition

or necessity/being forced into certain expression by others or by circumstance) didn't get us where we needed to be. In other words, the results we experienced from using the energy in question the ways that we did left us in a bad state of one kind or another.

People with squares to the nodes will draw people, events and circumstance representing the energy to them, so they have opportunities to learn to make different choices. We always have to come out of habitual and knee-jerk reactions when we have squares to the nodes – our patterns just don't serve us any longer. We need to grow beyond them.

With Lilith here, we'll draw attempts to suppress us, opportunities to creatively and irrationally express ourselves, and experiences that show us one side of our histories of sexual violence or fiery expression. What we need to do is to observe our habits in these scenarios - and then make new choices. Experiencing different sides of the energy now is growth in consciousness of an energy, and this change in consciousness is what resolves the issue. Learning to make different choices with energies squares to the nodes is karmic healing.

With a **trine** to the South Node and a sextile to the North Node, there's a stimulating/supporting energy affecting the nodal axis. In this position, people, groups, and circumstances representing Lilith energy in the karmic past supported what was happening around the native. Remember that stimulation and support aren't always good. We can be stimulated into hasty or unplanned action or accidents, and we can be supported in developing hurtful behaviors, complacency, and laziness.

Lilith **opposing** the South Node indicates experience of this energy was not available to the individual in the environments of the karmic past. An energy conjunct the North Node is as far away as possible from the South Node, where the native is "coming from." The energy could have been blocked by a person, organization, or circumstance. Whatever the case, the energy is one the native didn't get to access or express in the karmic past. Responses to conjunctions to the North Node vary, but center on two extremes: Feeling undeserving of getting to experience the energy, or being determined to have it now. Given that the South Node represents our emotional memories, what it can invoke is a highly emotional response.

The part of Lilith that wasn't available might have been time and space to express the instinctual nature, or the raw, primal side of the person's sexuality. Unfettered creativity or sexual equality could instead be the major Lilith theme in a person's life, or it could be the freedom to experience and care for the body in the way that felt right, counter to prevailing ideas of health and healing. In some way, the authentic and free expression of the self has been denied. Healing involves dissolving the belief that one doesn't get to have that energy, in essence doesn't deserve to be whole, and learn to connect with Lilith in intentional, conscious, honoring ways. As she's located in the territory our soul is aiming to learn to grow into (North Node), Lilith represents a clear and direct way for us to explore that new territory. It's almost as if a body on the North Node is a guide into the new frontier for us, and the question becomes if we will choose to connect with it and allow her to show us where we need to go.

Transits to Lilith

Planets in transit ask us questions. They bring their energies to challenge or boost us, always asking us if we are willing to change in the spirit of growth. How we respond to these questions is entirely up to us. Each transit is an opportunity to get to the bottom of a story we tell ourselves or step into new territory by recognizing a new direction and moving in its direction.

As the natal true Black Moon Lilith in many of us can represent a bed of hot-button issues related to anger, pain, suppression, and abuse, transits to it can stir us to feel we have to deal with some difficult issues we might not feel comfortable with. How we feel about Lilith inside ourselves and how we respond to external influences that have opinions about Lilith will determine much of the kinds of choices we will make when confronted with transits to our true Black Moons.

Jupiter

Jupiter by transit brings opportunities for expansion to whatever part of us it touches. Jupiter asks if we are willing to risk something in order to live a more interesting life. This is the knock on the door by someone asking you to drop what you're doing and take a chance to have fun in a new way, or bring via new and stretching experience more meaning into your life.

Jupiter's transits to Lilith will involve opportunities to bring more of her energy out into day-to-day life, or provide life-altering opportunities that show us how to integrate the often unseen dimensions of Lilith more directly into our outer lives. During a transit of Jupiter to Lilith we may find ourselves more willing to bring Lilith out from the dark depths into the light of day. For those of us unwilling to admit or unaware of a personal and internal connection to the cycles of nature, Jupiter touching Lilith can bring a feeling of expansion that can seem overwhelming to the part of us that is trying to stay hidden.

Whatever we draw to ourselves with this transit, the opportunity is in expanding our consciousness of and relationship with our own Lilith energy. Given the fearful reaction to Lilith in society, which is inherently Saturnian and spends its efforts normalizing as many people as possible so they can be helped by the social structures it has created, hits of transiting Jupiter to Lilith really do represent a risk. Part of you might ask, "What, you really want me to be more wild?? Have you seen where I live? And who I live with?" The thing is that Jupiter doesn't care about those limitations: He wants you to rediscover through new experience and revivify yourself. And given that Lilith in many of us is hiding for fear of repercussion, Jupiter's transits to her can bring healing to the idea that she should hide.

The trick in any transit is approaching it consciously and with patience, while understanding how the energy is configured in you so you can best align its expression with your innate wiring. With a willingness to have more consciousness and choose patience, transits of Jupiter to Lilith can open the door to understanding and experiencing of Lilith themes that take us closer to wholeness, to being who we truly are.

Conjunctions of this planet to Lilith involve an infusion of the energy of risk and expansion into Lilith. It may feel like Lilith just *has* to come out, or more or in some new and firecrackery way. Any emotional issues related to experiences of Lilith themes will seem to inflate now, perhaps to the point of being uncontainable. Take time to do something to heal past Lilith-related experiences and you will be expanding into greater health in the moment, something Jupiter supports wholeheartedly.

Sextiles represent stimulation to the external expression of Lilith. Jupiter is asking you to get moving! To get on with bringing out something new about your Lilith. It will engage in poking you in the ribs until you do something. Let it be something proactive, positive, and productive about honoring yourself as an extension of nature in a world conditioned to be afraid of it.

Squares to Lilith from Jupiter present friction, challenging you to find new ways to connect with and express your own particular Lilith energy. You're being invited to drop something in your assumptions about Lilith and open to risking new kinds or levels of Lilith-like expression. Risking standing up for yourself in a new scenario or with people you've known for years with whom you do not have reciprocal relationships are just a couple of the myriad risks into growth that fit the bill.

Trines represent support to your external expression of Lilith. Look for helping hands from Jupiterian sources that can help you see how to bring Lilith out in new ways. Unravel your assumptions about what Lilith is all about and risk some new way of being that factors in instinct and the wisdom of the natural world as you experience it in your body.

A Jupiter **opposition** to Lilith will be a confrontation of the planet of expansion and risk to your Lilith. You'll feel that you have to learn more and experience more related to Lilith to maintain your footing, which of course can increase your consciousness and acceptance of how Lilith makes herself known in you. This transit brings to you situations and people who challenge who you think Lilith is, thereby giving you the opportunity to see your assumptions and respond in the moment, opening you to learning new ways of bringing her primal instinctive energy out.

Saturn

Saturn, as the planet of limitation, restriction and structure, asks by transit how hard we're working (and once we answer, if it's enough). The planet of work, discipline and maturity travels around the zodiac asking each body in the chart this question and others to inspire us to get off our bums and just *do* something already.

When Saturn comes to aspect Lilith, the questions are about how mature and responsible we are about our Lilith energy: Have we created structures and systems in our lives that enable the expression of Lilith energy? If not, what are we waiting for? If we have, do we maintain them, and is there anything else in addition we need to do? In general, Saturn's asking if there's anything needing to be done related to Lilith's place in our lives, to ensure a proactive and healthy relationship with the self.

Saturn in this regard operates as the parental figure concerned with making sure the right things are in place. With these transits, we may draw to ourselves people and circumstances that challenge us to understand in what ways we're responsible for the part of ourselves that is Lilith. Regarding the Saturnian archetype, the source of any lack of ownership of our own energy is due to conditioning, having taken on others' conceptions, beliefs and judgments surrounding Lilith energy and expression.

And as Saturn is the archetype of society, Lilith is generally not perceived to be welcome in his house.

A major challenge for anyone experiencing a Saturn-to-Lilith transit is in becoming willing to recognize the realities of his or her own Lilith configuration/energy, and that the inclusion of this archetype into consciousness and day-to-day life is necessary for overall health. Also, he or she must be willing to take on the authority of self enough to build a container for Lilith to exist freely, in some way, relative to the native's natal Lilith configuration. Whether or not this choice is made, experiences to make clear what adjustments are necessary for this to happen will be manifest during these Saturn's transits to Lilith.

The **conjunction** of Saturn to Lilith will imbue a sense of authority into the Lilith part of the native. If he or she reacts to Saturn negatively (as the external authority experienced as overbearing or a burden), this can seem like being weighted down by the reality of Lilith's existence. If on the other hand the native is willing to have or develop a mature reaction to Saturnian energy, the sense of Lilith in that person will gain in maturity and authority.

The **sextile** to Lilith from Saturn offer stimulation for initiating or continuing the building of life structures and systems to ensure Lilith's expression. This transit is about pushing your buttons to continue getting more realistic, more grounded and more willing to follow through on developing a welcome place for Lilith in your life.

The **square** to Lilith by this planet will bring friction to this part of a person, and if there is a perception of or reality of persecution of the individual from Saturnian structures or people, it's critical to take responsibility for becoming a Saturnian figure for one's self in order to turn around the persecution feeling and figure out how to grow by increasing consciousness. This can be done by willingly allowing the Lilith self to be changed by the Saturnian challenges coming at him or her. As in most of us she is hiding in the depths because of experiences and conditioning surrounding Saturnian people and institutions, this can be a major challenge.

The **trine** to Lilith from Saturn offer support for initiating or continuing the building of life structures and systems to ensure Lilith's expression. Akin to an

encouraging but realistic, “Hey, you already know how to do this, you just have to keep at it,” a trine from Saturn offers a boost to furthering your Lilith understanding and expression.

The **opposition** from Saturn to Lilith will confront your Lilith. If the archetype is hidden, you will perceive a need either to draw out Lilith as a means of defense or retreat further into the shadows. If not hidden, outward and active Lilith expression in your life will seem necessary in order to make a statement, or to stand your ground in defense of what seems an offensive move from the Saturnian influences.

Chiron

Chiron by transit presents the opportunity to initiate the planet or point it touches into a more sensitive orientation to life, or deeper levels of understanding, with the aim of changing the relationships to our feeling natures. Our feelings and our orientation to them, what they are and mean, are necessary tools of the healing journey that Chiron represents and supports. His questions as he transits center on how willing we are to see the effects of individuals' emotional realities and how they relate to and comprise realities composed of many individuals.

Chiron acts as a gatekeeper in several ways. Related to the healing journey we have the opportunity to deepen and advance as he transits, the gate he can assist us in opening is one into a more consciously sensitive approach to life. Natally, each person's Chiron configuration speaks to one kind of the individual's wounding. But I argue that, more importantly, it indicates a specific area of sensitivity that the person has that can serve as the trigger for turning what is essentially a wounded whiner into a sensitive, compassionate healer, which we all have the capacity to become regardless of whether we choose openly to self-identify or work as healers.

Chiron transits to Lilith offers opportunities to understand and heal any wounding we may carry surrounding Lilith issues, including refection for our sexuality, abuse/rape, or denial that we can express our true natures and remain safe, healthy and accepted by others. As Chiron wants us to develop a new relationship with ourselves as feeling beings, transits of the body to Lilith can usher us into a magickal and direct feeling of connectedness with all of nature, but especially with our bodies as microcosms of nature. It is this understanding that's necessary if we ever hope to transform our species' relationship to the planet.

An altered, Chironic relationship with our Lilith, a part of ourselves that may rarely see the light of day, can transform a person's life in ways much different than other transits. With Chiron, there is a personal connection to the collective, a possibility of understanding how individuals' inner emotional reality can inform the groups they comprise.

I also work with Chiron as mastery (relative to our natal configurations). We can gain mastery of our particular Chironic issues once we accept the necessity of pain, the value of our sensitivity (and being willing to be as sensitive as we naturally are), embrace the reality that we can help others in pain even though we ourselves are in pain, and see the benefits in choosing to do so (when we assist others in their healing, we contribute to our own, not to mention making the world a better place). I don't mean "mastery" as control, but becoming masterful with regard to the issues indicated by our Chiron placements.

Conjunctions to Lilith from Chiron offer a sensitizing of the Lilith inside us that may result in an abatement of her rage for being rejected, presenting the opportunity to gain awareness of the particular feelings of others that are the bases of their rejection of us. This depends on the level of consciousness of the native, of course, as it can also result in an exponential deepening of the wounded feeling we each have related to the Chiron in us.

Sextiles from Chiron to Lilith trigger new perceptions about how we function as Lilith and how others in our lives do. This can make the energy of the wild as it exists in self and other a bit more real in a way that seems to invite us to do something

about it. This aspect can inspire reactivity if we are not clear about what energy and emotion belongs to whom in any given situation.

Squares to Lilith from Chiron will seem to force change, as though our Lilith is being knocked off course, whatever she's doing, by a painful influence from left field. With this transit, we need to be willing to see how being shaken out of our habitual relationship with Lilith can contribute to growth. We also need to understand that pain is a necessary part of healing and trust that it is temporary.

Trines from Chiron to Lilith support change related to our understanding and ability to relate to Lilith, ideally helping us to see how we can alter our perception of our Lilith-themed issues in order to become more whole and, thereby, healthier. New kinds of opportunities can come to help us see how to stretch into new expression of our Lilith, probably with a new motivation enabled by an increased understanding of the nature of pain and how people react to it.

The **opposition** of transiting Chiron to Lilith will open a dialogue about the nature of pain and how it engenders anger, specifically in your history of having been treated as a Lilith figure. During this time, the Chironic light of sensitivity is shining on your Lilith, making apparent the sources of your pain and making it clear that your Lilith-related rage is rooted in it. Chiron's opposition can show you how to transform your relationship with your instinctive, wild side by admitting compassion into all the dark corners in which your Lilith might be hiding for fear of continued or repeated abuse.

Uranus

Uranus is the planet of breaking free from restrictive structures, often with suddenness. If it's not sudden, abrupt or unexpected, it's not really Uranus at work. As Uranus transits the zodiac, it's asking in turn of each of our natal placements, "Are you free enough to live your life as an individual? Where in your life could you be more free? What's original about you that right now doesn't have room to come out and flourish, and assist in making your community/the world a better place? Where are you tying down your personal, individual genius?"

Transiting Lilith, Uranus asks if we're true enough to our inner sense of ourselves, our approach to our sense of wholeness (health), and what areas of our lives have become too routine or crystallized regarding our deepest well of creative fire and passion for life.

It can be explosive, depending on how bottled up our Lilith is and how much we resist the freedom Uranus brings. As most of us keep Lilith below the surface so she doesn't "earn" us trouble or negative reactions from others, Uranus' transits to Lilith can truly shake things up. Uranus is the energy of electricity, of shocking change, and Lilith in each of us is to some degree just waiting around for a reason to start expressing her anger and rage at being rejected for being who she really is. Each of these two energies has the desire to be authentic, and yet the archetypes each contain a phase of being willing to subvert the true nature of the self in order to fit in – in Uranus' case, not to be the only one being a certain way, in Lilith's, a fear of being shunned and punished as punishment for speaking her truth.

Each energy also has the capacity behave in ways judged by Saturnian types and institutions as rash. Said another way, each energy takes issue/has a beef with the way things typically work in this kind of culture. Taking advantage of a transit of Uranus to Lilith involves consciously recognizing the ways in which one is different and being willing to explore ways of being that energy in a more authentic, usually more or publicly visible, way. How we fit into our particular social nexus needs to be revamped when this transit comes along. The message seems to be that it's time to break out of any strictures we use to keep ourselves from manifesting our unique (and wonderful!) individuality in the world.

Navigating these transits successfully will center on being willing to change in ways outlined or dictated by Lilith's need to be in charge of her body and space, unapologetically true to herself, and to express her creativity and loving nature unfettered and with no strings attached. Outward action is necessary and the wise approach is to participate in the changes consciously, and not wait for something to explode in our lives.

A **conjunction** of Uranus to Lilith can feel like an explosion waiting to happen. Uranus infuses its individuation urge into the part of us that's often afraid to be truly unique. We can't any longer get away with not being free.

A **sextile** from Uranus to Lilith will function much like a poke in the ribs or persistent tickling, urging us to just break out of our fears of being seen as the version of Lilith each of us is.

With the **square**, change is inevitable. We must allow our Lilith to find new avenues and levels of expression that, while at first seeming anathema to you, will in fact serve your growth. Squares are not comfortable but this one to Lilith can

create lasting freedom if we are willing to shed ideas of who we should be in favor of acceptance of who we truly are.

A **trine** offers a boost or support to breaking whatever chains we have our own personal Lilith in. Uranus making this contact will bring new insights into stretching out into new territory with Lilith expression, encouraging and supporting your Lilith to leave behind old blocks about personal expression.

An **opposition** from Uranus to Lilith will show us directly in the form of outer circumstances or individuals in our lives just how we aren't free with our expressions of Lilith energy, and what alternate way of doing something could benefit us as we approach a greater level of wholeness surrounding the integration of Lilith.

Neptune

Transiting Neptune asks if there is anything about a greater sense of reality, or other dimensions/realities, that we have forgotten about or need to integrate. Neptune is the planet of dissolution as well as that of the collective, and its transits offer the opportunity to realign ourselves within us as well as within a larger context. As the planet of illusion at the same time as the planet of truth, Neptune can seem to offer us nothing but fog in which to get lost, while at the same time turning us on to a greater level of truth than we have ever personally known. How willing we are to be opened up to a greater sense of connectedness with all of existence will determine much about our experience of this transit.

Neptune's transits to Lilith may seem to touch Lilith in each of us with a sense of magick, or Divine grace, or perhaps of connectedness to all things. Our Lilith when touched by Neptune might feel incapable of remaining hidden, either because her grip on the walls of our insides get slick, and she slips out into daily life unintentionally, or because she is filled by a feeling of welling up with a greater connection to all of existence, making hiding seem an absurd choice.

Neptune is related to power dynamics and hierarchies. The energy of the collective hierarchy coming to contact the rejected, the recluse or the loner that Lilith can be can have the effect either of bursting the seams of repression or stomping on the creative expression in a deft power play. We must remember that greater forces (Neptune) are necessary now for us to progress along our path.

Neptune's role as the planet of truth resonates with Lilith. She chooses to cut herself off from where she came from, her home, in order to honor her personal truth. Neptune offers a connection to a greater truth, and this is where they differ. With transits of Neptune to our natal Lilith, this question of scale that separates them can make for a sorting out of the kinds of truth that are considered important. Lilith finds truth deep inside herself, denying the power trips of others in order to remain true to herself. She understands that as a part of life, a microcosm of the entirety of life, she possesses the answers necessary to navigate life – external power structures and hierarchies, which negate or lose sight of the individual, have no to interest her. Neptune finds truth in dissolving egocentric, individual-minded boundaries in order to expose one to greater truth. And while Neptune recognizes that this greater truth is also inside us, its process of prying us open may seem to offer an argument to Lilith.

If we perceive an argument between the two when having the transit (the pressure of Neptune's "Open up! Completely! And now!" versus Lilith's "I'm standing my individual ground!"), we will manifest such an argument in our outer lives. An important note with this transit is that we need to allow ourselves to experience the Neptunian truth that is coming to us, yet ensure that we remain connected to our authentic selves. For growth, which is the invitation of all transits, we need to come back to our internal sense of who we are, never forgetting our individual version of Lilith and where she stands. Allow the information and experiences Neptune brings you during this transit to enlarge your vision of the place of your Lilith in the world, and yet ensure that you never lose your individual, interior footing of what the best thing for you is.

If we are in a general sort of denial about Lilith in our lives, this transit can strip away the ability to or relevance of keeping her hidden. This part of us may also be infused with the sense of oneness that Neptunian times can inspire.

Conjunctions of Neptune to Lilith will offer an infusion of the lid-busting energy to a part of us most of us guard closely. Lilith in this case needs to learn how to open to a greater truth from the inside out, perhaps in evaluating whether it is a good idea to be shut down, if she is.

The **sextile** offers stimulation from Neptunian sources or events to impact Lilith into some sort of action. Your Lilith at this time needs to be egged into some sort of expression. Allow Neptunian activities, people, and situations to stir you to new levels of expression, opening to new awareness of the truth of what Lilith has to say and offer to you in your life.

The **square** to Lilith represents Neptunian pressure for you to adjust your understanding and experience of Lilith by opening up to a truth about how and why the Lilith in you has been shaped into her present state. There is a greater level of truth to be considered and related to, the square asserts, and it may be uncomfortable for you to open to this idea, but it is time. This is a rare opportunity for you to open to the truth of Lilith, both the archetype outside of you and how you live her stories in your own life.

The **trine** offers support for Lilith from Neptune, making possible a feeling of support for an emergence of some level of Lilith expression. There is a truth about the archetype, your understanding of it, or how you live Lilith's stories that's waiting to come through to you and help you shift how you experience Lilith.

The **opposition** presents a confrontation from Neptunian energy to the status quo of your Lilith. With this transit you can learn more about to align your instinctive, primal side to greater reality, and you will be invited to let go of Lilith-related ideas and positions that no longer serve you and prevent you from seeing the bigger picture.

You might draw people and circumstances that seem to snag you in a Neptunian stand-off, and the question becomes how willing you are to be changed as you see a new layer of truth about your perceptions and assumptions concerning what Lilith is really about.

Pluto

If we're willing to look at the motivations underlying our behaviors when a Pluto transit comes around, doors into ourselves can be opened. If we're not willing, chances are that we'll feel pushed through a few doors anyway. Pluto's transits get a bad rap, but admitting that we might need to change, and allowing Pluto to show us what needs to change, can allow them to be transformative.

Transiting Pluto asks us questions about facing what's under the surface of us. The transits of Pluto to Lilith offer the opportunity to get behind the conditioning we may have taken on to survive or go with the prevailing flow, to hide our Lilith. Pluto asks us to confront our personal sense of power rooted in Lilith's wisdom of the natural world and uncompromising authenticity, and to get there, we have to face our fears of power and being powerful.

Wherever we've agreed to stifle our Lilith energy, we'll get the chance to see it with a transit from Pluto. This body asks Lilith by transit where we've betrayed our true nature, in what ways we haven't admitted the truth of ourselves to ourselves. The opportunity is in taking back our power relative to our Lilith (understood by natal house, sign and aspect), and first we must heal our painful memories of having been treated as Lilith was.

Pluto's method involves inviting us to peel away layers of what we think is happening to see the actual mechanics and motivations under the surface. We'll see as much as we're willing to see. People will manifest to show us how we've adapted to various power dynamics in our lives, and we'll be confronted with the challenge to respond with deeper levels of instinctive wisdom. We may find ourselves with irrational reactions to people in or coming into our lives, and we have to learn to trust our visceral responses and end relationships that might not work for us.

The fear of manifesting our Lilith consciousness and energy powerfully can present us with people attempting to teach us a power-over lesson, and if we feel we're getting ourselves into uncomfortable power struggles or relationships that don't honor us, Pluto transiting Lilith can be an impetus to leave what doesn't work behind and make space for what we actually do desire.

Essentially, Pluto transits to Lilith raise the stakes of our challenge to trust our deepest knowing about how our life is going and where we need to be going. Realize that you're ready to experience whatever comes with this transit, and that you've signed up to learn the lessons. Greater consciousness of Lilith and the opportunities Pluto transits will change your experience of them (they won't have to be as difficult as possible if you allow that change to how you express or suppress Lilith is necessary). Also, remember that any others bringing you lessons of manifesting Lilith powerfully have agreed to be your teachers, as you have agreed to be theirs.

The **conjunction** will pour Plutonian energy into Lilith, asking if you can respond with your instinctive authenticity in new powerful ways. Try on for size the idea that you don't have to be small in order to survive and your Lilith self can learn to thrive.

The **sextile** from Pluto will trigger Lilith into action, causing some out-in-the-open behavior that you might not be accustomed to. Your opportunity is in allowing yourself to be stimulated to learn something new about how to use and experience your instinctive inner knowing.

The **square** from Pluto pressures Lilith to change, to adapt to new circumstance outside your comfort zone. This could be a powerful figure coming into your life to

spur you to reconnect with Lilith. If you experience it as painful, recognize that this is a teacher for you, and the situation is exactly what you're ready for.

The **trine** brings a boost to Lilith, presenting you with new contexts or understanding for empowered uses of Lilith, perhaps in a mentor figure or peer who understands more about how to bring Lilith into positive place in his or her life who offers a positive example for or direct teaching to you. Learn everything you can – it's time.

The **opposition** from transiting Pluto to Lilith brings a confrontation from power to your sense of instinctive wisdom. In this time you need to understand that what you're seeing outside yourself is to show you your internal dynamics – be grateful for the chance to see what you're really up to internally! Learn everything you can, and accept with humility the true view of yourself you're being exposed to.

The True Black Moon in Transit

Now that we've explored Lilith's myth and archetype and looked at the true Black Moon's house placements, sign placements, and natal aspects, it's time to learn more about the true Black Moon and how it moves. This will bring up the core arguments against it employed by those who assert that it cannot be used. This information has not been introduced earlier in the book because I wanted to make sure that your linear, logical mind would not close to the experiential side of Lilith through its placement in charts of the true Black Moon. You have no doubt by this point looked up where your own true BML is located and read about your natal aspects, and perhaps those of people close to you. You likely connected with the feeling of this point being in your particular house and sign, seeing how the energy of Lilith has over time affected relationships, sexuality, creativity, and your sense of autonomy. This is my point in saving the following information important to understanding Lilith: that you feel the reality of Lilith's input via the true BML in your chart and those of others with which you are familiar. It would be too easy for your mind to dismiss its validity if you were fully armed with the rational objections to its use prior to connecting to the energy within you.

The movement of the true Black Moon is erratic and it changes direction and speed often. This translates into a back-and-forth motion, a sort of whipping back and forth within the space a couple of signs for a number of months at a time, completing a cycle approximately every 8 years. Let's revisit the quote from Juan Antonio Revilla that appears in the "Three Liliths and One Eve" section above:

> The orbit through time constitutes a series of oscillations around an average or "mean" slowly evolving Keplerian ellipse. This would be the equivalent of the Mean Black Moon or barycentric mean lunar apogee. The osculating apogee represents the actual trajectory of the Moon as it actually is at a given instant. We can think of it as a *ghost image* that the Moon carries with it all the time. This ghost image represents a sort of ideal, an "ideal future" when the Moon is (or will be) at apogee, but it keeps changing or evolving as the Moon travels through space.
>
> We can also think of the perigee, the north and south nodes, and the empty second focus of the orbit in the same way: they all represent idealized focal points or "directions" that are a result of the "psychic projections" of the Moon, they are *Moon ghosts* that the Moon always carries with it, that are part of the "lunar structure" of every individual. The Moon represents the present moment, the nodes, apsides, and empty focus represent the past and "look forward" psychic projections that give shape and structure to the lunar dynamics of a person's life. They are like the rooms, passages and corridors of a house (the different parts of the orbit) that become projections of the person who inhabits it (the Moon).
>
> Some people think that an osculating orbit is something too artificial or unreal, and call the use of the osculating lunar apogee or Black Moon "nonsense," "close to nonsense," "makes no sense at all," etc. The main reasons usually given for this are 1) the large difference (of up to 30 degrees) between the mean and osculating value of the lunar apogee, 2) the fact that this osculating value "can travel to places where the Moon

> will never go" (see how amazingly significant this is in psychological and psychic terms!), and 3) its erratic changes of direction and velocity, which for some it means it cannot be really called "a motion" at all.
>
> But I have always insisted that it is precisely all that what makes the symbolism of the osculating apogee/Black Moon so powerful. It doesn't matter at all that its motion is erratic: *it doesn't have to move like a planet because it is not a planet!* ... this brings it symbolically closer to all the neglected psychical projections of the Moon, both positively and negatively. The osculating Black Moon, representing the constantly changing shape of the lunar orbit is a very good fit to the organic, instinctual nature of Black Moon symbolism.[16]

As I see it, the true Black Moon in motion represents the plotting of a set of potentials. A person's natal placement will reflect a level of his or her ability to relate emotionally to the deep cache of energy Lilith represents in the human psyche and energy field. But as we look at the true BML in transit, we have to see it as different from a planet and make sure that the facts of what it is and how it seems to move (while not in fact moving at all because it is a point that is a function of the Moon's orbit around the Earth) do not distract us from the deep emotional cache of Lilith within us and the assorted emotional states that accompany it.

As Revilla points out, the true BML is not a planet and cannot be expected to move like one. Our natural emotional selves do not function like anything else, sensitive as we are to energy and the fluctuations that come with the fact of being energetically wired as we are. An important feature of us that we are just now beginning to open to learning about is the fact that we are energetic beings. Getting to know this side of ourselves requires getting in and making peace with our bodies and learning to give our minds less to do. But of course our astrological minds have expectations of and requirements for what constitutes a planet and therefore what is worth including in the astrological vocabulary. Astrology as a discipline has grown up looking out through a lens that can be considered academic in some ways, though to outsiders its scientific aspects are deemed not worth considering it as a valid field of knowledge. Our minds, therefore, will carry expectations of who we are and what should be used in charts but the reality of who we are as energetic and emotional beings requires that we open up to new conceptions of what is worth including in chart analysis. The osculating apogee presents us an opportunity to get closer to our true natures as energetic and emotional beings and to cease limiting how we conceive of and do astrology because of the rules of the mind and what our astrological minds expect to do and find when analyzing birth charts. As in any field of study, if we continually find what we expect to find, we're not doing good astrology work.

The Lilith archetype is unlike any other that we have worked with in astrology precisely because of its potential within us to carry raw and always-changing emotive power that defies logic and brings our lower chakras and their capacity for instinctive knowing into our lives. *The primal nature of Lilith's Earthy energy makes it unlike other archetypes currently in use by astrologers.* Though in the minority, I've been using the true BML for a number of years now and find that it speaks to my clients and students in significant ways, opening doors into understanding self and other while releasing past pain and healing in order to become present, which is where our true, spiritual power as humans lies. I offer that we are at an evolutionary juncture in astrology, a fork in the road at which we can choose to embrace our natures as

energetic beings and learn to operate ourselves consciously in light of all that implies, or we can continue to try to force ourselves into small boxes in order to ensure that our minds can wrap themselves around the idea of who we are, locking us into limited and limiting self-definitions that don't tax the mind and its inherent limitations too much. The mind cannot accept the fact of nature because it cannot protect us in the face of what cannot be controlled. Revilla's comments above encapsulate the mind-based objections to opening to consider the realities of Lilith as we carry her energy and live her stories that come in the form of the rejections of the osculating apogee as "nonsense." I view Lilith – specifically through the true Black Moon – as an entry point into accepting ourselves as precisely who we are and honoring that truth even as our linear, logical minds might find it difficult to relinquish control over the right to define who we are.

Will we honor this truth? Will we open to remembering and reconnecting with ourselves as beings that are more than minds that happen to have or bodies that happen to have minds? I feel strongly that the answers to these questions lie in how we adapt to the information the true BML or osculating apogee provides us and, by extension, how we adapt to considering ourselves as part of the natural world and the systems of life that exist upon Earth.

One final note regarding the objection raised about the true BML going where the Moon itself cannot go: emotions as energies are constantly being projected by humans. This is not the kind of projection wherein I decide that my malfunctions are yours and I decide to tell you just what precisely it is that's wrong with you. It is to say that the way that our emotional selves function is to fill us with feeling with which we try to do something as a result – our emotional states are extending into the space surrounding us all the time! When we have a feeling we are simply not possessing an energy. We are running that energy and it affects the space around us. Think about what it's like when you walk into a room in which two people are arguing or have just taken a breath in the middle of an argument. The room is filled with their energy while it is their bodies that generate the feelings. The function of the true Black Moon going places where the Moon itself cannot go should not be considered an argument against its use given how our emotions and emotional selves generally and normally function.

Motion

The dates and degrees below are from the ephemeris for Lilith of November and December of 2000, chosen at random. After the date column, you will see two columns with degrees of signs. The one on the left is the osculating apogee, which I refer to the true Black Moon. The third column on the right represents the mean position of the Black Moon, astrology's Eve, which cannot possibly tell us anything useful about Lilith. Note that the two positions can differ up to 30 degrees.

01 Nov 2000| 01Aq22 | 27Cp14 |
02 Nov 2000| 29Cp47 | 27Cp21 |
03 Nov 2000| 28Cp36 | 27Cp27 |
04 Nov 2000| 27Cp33 | 27Cp34 |
05 Nov 2000| 26Cp19 | 27Cp41 |
06 Nov 2000| 24Cp35 | 27Cp47 |
07 Nov 2000| 22Cp11 | 27Cp54 |
08 Nov 2000| 19Cp07 | 28Cp01 |
09 Nov 2000| 15Cp40 | 28Cp07 |
10 Nov 2000| 12Cp17 | 28Cp14 |
11 Nov 2000| 09Cp28 | 28Cp20 |
12 Nov 2000| 07Cp24 | 28Cp27 |
13 Nov 2000| 06Cp01 | 28Cp34 |
14 Nov 2000| 05Cp00 | 28Cp40 |
15 Nov 2000| 03Cp59 | 28Cp47 |
16 Nov 2000| 02Cp46 | 28Cp54 |
17 Nov 2000| 01Cp33 | 29Cp00 |
18 Nov 2000| 00Cp58 | 29Cp07 |
19 Nov 2000| 01Cp50 | 29Cp14 |
20 Nov 2000| 04Cp40 | 29Cp20 |
21 Nov 2000| 09Cp20 | 29Cp27 |
22 Nov 2000| 15Cp12 | 29Cp34 |
23 Nov 2000| 21Cp19 | 29Cp40 |
24 Nov 2000| 26Cp49 | 29Cp47 |
25 Nov 2000| 01Aq00 | 29Cp53 |
26 Nov 2000| 03Aq38 | 00Aq00 |
27 Nov 2000| 04Aq51 | 00Aq07 |
28 Nov 2000| 05Aq05 | 00Aq13 |
29 Nov 2000| 04Aq53 | 00Aq20 |
30 Nov 2000| 04Aq38 | 00Aq27 |
01 Dec 2000| 04Aq31 | 00Aq33 |
02 Dec 2000| 04Aq29 | 00Aq40 |
03 Dec 2000| 04Aq20 | 00Aq47 |
04 Dec 2000| 03Aq49 | 00Aq53 |
05 Dec 2000| 02Aq39 | 01Aq00 |
06 Dec 2000| 00Aq42 | 01Aq07 |
07 Dec 2000| 27Cp59 | 01Aq13 |
08 Dec 2000| 24Cp46 | 01Aq20 |
09 Dec 2000| 21Cp31 | 01Aq26 |
10 Dec 2000| 18Cp37 | 01Aq33 |
11 Dec 2000| 16Cp17 | 01Aq40 |
12 Dec 2000| 14Cp24 | 01Aq46 |
13 Dec 2000| 12Cp39 | 01Aq53 |
14 Dec 2000| 10Cp44 | 02Aq00 |
15 Dec 2000| 08Cp33 | 02Aq06 |
16 Dec 2000| 06Cp19 | 02Aq13 |

17 Dec 2000| 04Cp35 | 02Aq20 |
18 Dec 2000| 04Cp00 | 02Aq26 |
19 Dec 2000| 04Cp55 | 02Aq33 |
20 Dec 2000| 07Cp22 | 02Aq40 |
21 Dec 2000| 11Cp07 | 02Aq46 |
22 Dec 2000| 15Cp42 | 02Aq53 |
23 Dec 2000| 20Cp38 | 03Aq00 |
24 Dec 2000| 25Cp22 | 03Aq06 |
25 Dec 2000| 29Cp30 | 03Aq13 |
26 Dec 2000| 02Aq50 | 03Aq19 |
27 Dec 2000| 05Aq26 | 03Aq26 |
28 Dec 2000| 07Aq31 | 03Aq33 |
29 Dec 2000| 09Aq20 | 03Aq39 |
30 Dec 2000| 11Aq00 | 03Aq46 |
31 Dec 2000| 12Aq28 | 03Aq53 |

The true BML will pass over the same points in a chart many times over the course of a few months. Experientially, each pass of the transiting true Black Moon functions as a light touch of opening us to, reminding us of, or pointing us in the direction of the wild in some form. These are almost momentary invitations to let instinct take over and guide us. The effect could be that one's senses are heightened or the person's awareness of them becomes very clear. When this happens there is the opportunity to learn something about a situation, choice, dynamic, or relationship in one's life that might not be right for the person in the moment or in general, and he or she will have the chance to factor in this Lilith-inspired way of discerning what is right for the self. But, again, while this can be fleeting on any given day there will be multiple opportunities over the course of several months to sense and open to valuing and acting upon this information. The person can feel lightly nudged to change a situation or speak up to a friend, spouse, or partner of any kind and while there may seem no pressure to do so, after a number of these light nudges there may come into form a need to take action. Pressure may in time build to the point that he or she can no longer avoid dealing with the situation that has now become a problem.

As many people in Western cultures carry at least some of the patriarchal residue in them related to relationships, gender roles and disparity, and blocks to the free expression of natural sexuality, transits of the true Black Moon for many can incrementally bring up any issues within their relationships with others and those they have with their own bodies when it comes to natural or unnatural modes of physical and sexual expression that do and do not work for them. The energetic, emotional, and sensory information linked to our lower chakras can be seen as the wisdom of the natural world and the Earth and the Goddess herself if true BML transits are paid attention to. Transits and progressions to one's natal true BML placement stir issues related to Lilith but transits of the true BML itself bring Lilith's awareness to other parts of our chart and therefore other areas of life.

Whether through sexuality and relationships, gender role issues, nutrition, or self-care including aspects of health and well-being, the bottom line with transits of the true BML is to sensitize us to the reality of the physical body and how it is always giving us valuable information about how our choices are creating our experiences. The mind-centered approach most of us have adopted as a result of being conditioned over

many lives by the edicts and expectations of patriarchal culture, politics, and religion seeks to edit out the natural wisdom of the wild world and perhaps especially when it comes to how that wisdom exists in our own bodies and energetic fields. I consider transits of the true BML to be iterative opportunities to let the wisdom of the Earth and the natural world be heard through our bodies. The repeated passes of the true BML provide almost momentary glimpses into what our bodies have to say about our day-to-day realities and the choices we make when it comes to relationships, sexuality, self-care, nutrition, and health and well-being. The mind may want to overlook all of it out of habit and many can find it challenging to align with the inner voice of the natural wild as it exists in and courses through the physical body. It is, however, worth it to gently overcome habit and give this part of us a chance. Living in harmony with Lilith means that we are in our bodies and present to how our lives are unfolding.

It also means that we create a space of openness to live our lives and encounter others just as we and they are, without the fears, pretence, concerns, and control-based agendas of the mind that have been drilled into us as members of patriarchal cultures.

The true Black Moon in transit provides a chance to reorient who we have always thought we are in favor of who we really are on more levels than our conditioned minds know what to do with. Therefore it is true that as we experience this point in transit touching parts of our charts repeatedly over the course of several months at a time, we can find ourselves losing interest in some of what our minds do. We might be a bit bored with our normal routines and our reasons for investing in them.

It could be that we think this the feeling is transient and that we need not pay it much attention, sure that it will pass. But it could be that the transiting true BML is asking us to open to being who we are on more levels than our strategist, planner, and executive conditioned mind has decided is all we are.

In my experience I have not seen a lot of use in tracking the transits of the true Black Moon on any particular day but I do see much worth noting the area of the chart highlighted for months at a time and its multiple stations retrograde and direct in one area of the chart. If a person's 1st and 2nd houses are being passed through again and again over a several-month period, issues about his or her relationship with the physical body and self-esteem and self-reliance will be highlighted. The person will have repeated opportunities to feel the wisdom of the body as it relates to beliefs, patterns, choices, and habits when it comes to these parts of life. Whether about sexuality, health and well-being, equality within relationship, or any other Lilith theme, how it is experienced physically and the role of the person as someone who makes choices (1st house) as well as what the person truly needs and how he or she operates or doesn't as a self-reliant individual (2nd house) will come up again and again during these several months when the true BML whips back and forth in these two houses. At some point during its time passing repeatedly through the 1st house, the 3rd house will be added. Whatever Lilith theme the person has been working with will now shift emphasis to being played out in the 2nd and 3rd houses, with perhaps some dipping back into the 1st house for a bit. In this way we can watch the true BML move around the chart and highlight each house always as one of a pair and sometimes as a trio, offering us the chance to be sensitized to the wisdom of the natural world as it exists in our bodies, as it is communicated through our senses and chemical and physiological responses to the world around us.

Stations

The effects of the stations both retrograde and direct when in tight orb of natal planets and points present emphases for a few days at a time on the existence or the importance of relying on instinct and the innate natural wisdom of the body. I have found this useful for learning about Lilith and how we can deepen our relationship with her but – and this is important – gradually over time. Opening to the energy of Lilith can be bewildering for your mind and senses because you can have a radical new orientation to body sensitivity and the messages that in fact constantly flow from all parts of the body. Most of us are not trained to be attuned to these messages and so a gradual opening can serve us best as we explore coming out of mind-centered and -controlled living.

Stations occur when a planet or point seems from the Earth's perspective to slow down in order to change direction. As it comes to stand more or less still, the energetic experience of its archetype in our lives slows and then ceases its normal flow. With the already erratic energy of Lilith coming a stop to change direction as it does rather frequently, our day-to-day ways of relating to our emotions and our bodies might shift at the same time. Not all of us are attuned to Lilith and as a result not many of us are truly happy being in our bodies and accustomed to honoring the information and feedback that our bodies are constantly offering us as the wisdom of the natural world. Using the true BML in transit can help any of us become more sensitive to this reality not many of us have opened up to and the stations serve to offer points of emphasis in that process. The chemical and physiological sensations that something in our spheres is out of balance and does not work for us can seem stronger at the stations. It can seem as though Lilith is staring at us while everything else is unfolding as it always does – there can be a sense of the energy of Lilith challenging us to act on the information and wisdom our senses and bodies offer us. It can be somewhat disconcerting and we have to take care that we choose to honor instead of criticize ourselves as Lilith when these nudges are felt. Over the course of the months that the true BML passes back and forth between a duo or trio of houses this effect can occur but it may be more pronounced for any of us when the stations retrograde and direct occur in tight orb to planets and points in our birth charts.

Below is the same excerpt from the Lilith ephemeris included above but with markers added to point out the stations retrograde (SR) and direct (SD). Note that the mean position – appearing in the 3rd column – does not change direction. The many changes of direction of the osculating apogee are a factor in the arguments of those who feel that the true BML should not be used. I do not address all of their arguments because I do not feel it will get us anywhere – it seems to me a trap of the mind to prevent us from getting close to the real meaning of Lilith and her erratic nature within us that reflects the sometimes erratic processes of nature.

01 Nov 2000| 01Aq22 | 27Cp14 |
02 Nov 2000| 29Cp47 | 27Cp21 |
03 Nov 2000| 28Cp36 | 27Cp27 |
04 Nov 2000| 27Cp33 | 27Cp34 |
05 Nov 2000| 26Cp19 | 27Cp41 |
06 Nov 2000| 24Cp35 | 27Cp47 |
07 Nov 2000| 22Cp11 | 27Cp54 |
08 Nov 2000| 19Cp07 | 28Cp01 |
09 Nov 2000| 15Cp40 | 28Cp07 |
10 Nov 2000| 12Cp17 | 28Cp14 |
11 Nov 2000| 09Cp28 | 28Cp20 |
12 Nov 2000| 07Cp24 | 28Cp27 |
13 Nov 2000| 06Cp01 | 28Cp34 |
14 Nov 2000| 05Cp00 | 28Cp40 |
15 Nov 2000| 03Cp59 | 28Cp47 |
16 Nov 2000| 02Cp46 | 28Cp54 |
17 Nov 2000| 01Cp33 | 29Cp00 |
18 Nov 2000| 00Cp58 | 29Cp07 | SD
19 Nov 2000| 01Cp50 | 29Cp14 |
20 Nov 2000| 04Cp40 | 29Cp20 |
21 Nov 2000| 09Cp20 | 29Cp27 |
22 Nov 2000| 15Cp12 | 29Cp34 |
23 Nov 2000| 21Cp19 | 29Cp40 |
24 Nov 2000| 26Cp49 | 29Cp47 |
25 Nov 2000| 01Aq00 | 29Cp53 |
26 Nov 2000| 03Aq38 | 00Aq00 |
27 Nov 2000| 04Aq51 | 00Aq07 |
28 Nov 2000| 05Aq05 | 00Aq13 | SR
29 Nov 2000| 04Aq53 | 00Aq20 |
30 Nov 2000| 04Aq38 | 00Aq27 |
01 Dec 2000| 04Aq31 | 00Aq33 |
02 Dec 2000| 04Aq29 | 00Aq40 |
03 Dec 2000| 04Aq20 | 00Aq47 |
04 Dec 2000| 03Aq49 | 00Aq53 |
05 Dec 2000| 02Aq39 | 01Aq00 |
06 Dec 2000| 00Aq42 | 01Aq07 |
07 Dec 2000| 27Cp59 | 01Aq13 |
08 Dec 2000| 24Cp46 | 01Aq20 |
09 Dec 2000| 21Cp31 | 01Aq26 |
10 Dec 2000| 18Cp37 | 01Aq33 |
11 Dec 2000| 16Cp17 | 01Aq40 |
12 Dec 2000| 14Cp24 | 01Aq46 |
13 Dec 2000| 12Cp39 | 01Aq53 |
14 Dec 2000| 10Cp44 | 02Aq00 |

15 Dec 2000| 08Cp33 | 02Aq06 |
16 Dec 2000| 06Cp19 | 02Aq13 |
17 Dec 2000| 04Cp35 | 02Aq20 |
18 Dec 2000| 04Cp00 | 02Aq26 | SD
19 Dec 2000| 04Cp55 | 02Aq33 |
20 Dec 2000| 07Cp22 | 02Aq40 |
21 Dec 2000| 11Cp07 | 02Aq46 |
22 Dec 2000| 15Cp42 | 02Aq53 |
23 Dec 2000| 20Cp38 | 03Aq00 |
24 Dec 2000| 25Cp22 | 03Aq06 |
25 Dec 2000| 29Cp30 | 03Aq13 |
26 Dec 2000| 02Aq50 | 03Aq19 |
27 Dec 2000| 05Aq26 | 03Aq26 |
28 Dec 2000| 07Aq31 | 03Aq33 |
29 Dec 2000| 09Aq20 | 03Aq39 |
30 Dec 2000| 11Aq00 | 03Aq46 |
31 Dec 2000| 12Aq28 | 03Aq53 |

The stations or change of direction of the osculating apogee do not occur on a regular basis. There seems to be no pattern when it comes to these direction changes over the short term. One sample from the ephemeris yields the following result, with each number representing how many days the true BML is in motion between stations: 16, 14, 16, 12, 16, 20, 11. 16 days seems a pattern but only from looking at this brief sample.

The velocity is also variable, as we can see using the middle column of the ephemeris above. It is common for us to find the variable nature of our emotionally reactive selves discomfiting, and the motion of the osculating apogee reflects this in that it can move from under one degree to over 6 degrees per day. Of course our astrological, control-based minds don't want to use it! It appears to be all over the place and with no metric upon which we can rely. But observe with openness and clarity how your emotions function on a daily basis. Some days you are a little slow and others you are moving a bit quicker. This is true when it comes to becoming aware of what you are feeling as well as processing it. For example, some relationship break ups you have been able to process in a few weeks while others might take you months or years. Each emotional situation in our lives is unique and requires different approaches and timelines to work with and, if needed, heal.

Besides offering the possibilities to gain insights into our emotions, the stations of the true Black Moon can delineate turning points in our ability to process and heal emotional pain. The changes in direction and velocity of the true BML appear to the mind to be "nonsense" but in fact reflect the organic shifts that each of us as humans undergo when it comes to feeling and processing emotions. How could we expect a mean position to show us something about our emotional selves and how they function? Our astrological minds want to because they want to use planets and points in the chart that can be brought under the control of a reasonable mind seeking to control the surrounding world. There is nothing wrong with our minds but we need to ensure that we are not letting them control us out of being aware of and able to work with all sides of ourselves including emotions, which minds often cannot begin to understand and deal with precisely because they cannot be controlled.

If you are interested in getting closer to the momentary and shifting nature of Lilith-inspired information, watch these transits in your own chart daily for a few months. You'll see repeated aspects to the same bodies several times – both when the true Black Moon is direct and when retrograde – and your experiential palette grown from direct awareness of Lilith will begin to expand.

Progressions to Lilith

Progressions represent inner change. We experience inner change that we are then challenged to implement in our outer lives. Something inside us shifts slowly over time and eventually, we find ourselves behaving differently and for different reasons than we ever have before. One way to think of progressions is that we add to our repertory over time.

Progressions to the true Black Moon Lilith indicate that inner change surrounding a person's relationship with the inner wild is shifting. To navigate a progression to Lilith well, any and all knots, blocks, and bruises surrounding Lilith as well as any unwillingness to honor the internal wild, must be dealt with consciously and honestly.

Sun

The progressed Sun aspecting Lilith indicates that it's time for the evolving sense of self and ways of creating a sense of individual wholeness to integrate something new about what Lilith is, knows, and can offer.

The Sun is the center of gravity of the personality. The progressed Sun shows us where we need to add to our repertory to continue evolving our sense of what it means to develop a healthy ego and sense of self. The house and sign of each, the aspect between them, and the natal aspects to Lilith will offer information about how this can be approached.

That these two very different energies are in conversation can present notable challenges for an individual. The Sun is, in our culture, the energy most of us on some level are expected to embody. This is a flavor of the masculine energy. Lilith, on the other hand, representing an energy people are usually afraid to look at/admit into consciousness, may seem to offer an impossible challenge: Become more like Lilith (even though just about everyone everywhere says it's bad and you shouldn't). But it's not impossible. It just requires a willingness to add rawness to the conception of self, to learn to try some instinctive irrationality on for size. If you're willing to try different kinds of it on, you'll find some flavor of it fits: With the progressed Sun hitting Lilith, it's time to admit more of the wild into your life. The evolution of your sense of self requires it.

The **conjunction** of the progressed Sun to Lilith makes a statement that one's Lilith needs to become an active and well-represented part of the individual's sense of self. The conception of self is ready to add and integrate Lilith's themes and expressions and become more influenced by the primal, instinctive wisdom Lilith offers.

The **sextile** says that the evolving sense of self needs to be allowed to trigger Lilith into action. Vitality and an overall sense of health rest on becoming willing to bring Lilith more out into the open, or out in more positive ways that contribute to the overall sense of self.

A **square** indicates friction, with the progressed Sun challenging new levels or modes of expression from Lilith. Whatever is happening with your natal Lilith, your expression of her energy and how you live her themes needs to be allowed to change in order that you maintain sanity. Old versions of forcing or repressing your Lilith-like expression will no longer work.

With the **trine**, there can develop a stronger sense of internal support for one's understanding and experience of Lilith, perhaps making Lilith feel more at home in the sense of self. Now is the time to strengthen your overall sense of self by incorporating Lilith's primal, instinctive wisdom more into your life – your evolving sense of self is ready to be "Lilith-ified."

The **opposition** of the progressed Sun to your natal Lilith tells of a confrontation of your evolving self with the assumptions and habitual reactions of your Lilith. Growth in this case requires giving up whatever expression or lack of expression related to Lilith that you use or allow to limit yourself. This progression has the effect of shining a light on whatever your natal Lilith is doing or not doing, and your ongoing vitality and sanity depend on being willing to see everything you possibly can about your Lilith.

Moon

The progressed Moon speaks to our evolving desires and needs. The natal Moon has much to do with what we need to do to make ourselves happy, and the progressed Moon shows us how our priorities of desire and self-care evolve over time. It changes house and sign roughly every two and a half years, making a circuit of the natal chart every 27-28 years.

When the progressed Moon contacts natal Lilith, it's time for you to bring into conscious feeling something of what's contained in your Lilith. This involves a connection to your wild self, deeper ways to approach wholeness that involve reconnecting with the natural world and your sense of being a part of it. To get to and strengthen that connection, you need to heal whatever cache of emotional memories might be stuffed down into a subterranean closet. Progressed Moon contacts to Lilith, then, indicate that it's time to reconnect with the irrational and instinctive part of you, but also that it's time to allow some healing of your memories of suppression and punishment related to Lilith.

As an indicator of what kinds of behaviors and strategies you can serve yourself well by exploring and adding to your repertory, the progressed Moon in aspect to Lilith tells us that exploring a new layer of your primal, instinctive sides offer your present moment's avenues for growth. The house and sign of the progressed Moon and the nature of the aspect to Lilith in question will provide valuable clues to what kind of Lilith-like exploration is called for.

The **conjunction** of the progressed Moon to natal Lilith is a healing opportunity. New levels of awareness of the present can show you how to let go of the anger and pain from past suppression, and catch up to the needs and realities of the present moment.

The conjunction indicates that your Lilith needs to be felt directly, and needs to be allowed to affect your person from the inside out. A new willingness to feel what's happening with your individual Lilith is on the table. Though Lilith's pain tends to guide our behavior, we don't often open consciously to feel the rage and pain behind it that often defines our experience of the Lilith archetype. Now is the time for you to open to those feelings and become willing to feel them all in order to heal, release, and move beyond them.

The **sextile** says that you need to allow your evolving understanding of your needs to take cues and inspiration from Lilith's rawness and primal, irrational orientation. You need to allow yourself to be triggered by what she knows and understands, seen in terms of house, sign, and aspect. Your evolving understanding of your needs and desires can now stimulate healing to your Lilith and give her cues about how to express more of herself (yourself) more openly.

A **square** from the progressed Moon to natal Lilith presents friction. The Moon speaks about present desires and needs, and Lilith speaks about the need for more raw, primal, instinctive approaches to life. The friction from the progressed Moon is asking your Lilith to open to modes of expression that you have avoided for one reason or another. A major possibility for growth with this aspect is in giving up any restrictions on expressing your Lilith based in long-held reasons. Your evolution and happiness now depend on choosing and being changed by new levels and forms of expressing Lilith.

The **trine** means that it's time to allow the evolving emotional self to bolster and support natal Lilith, enabling healing and supporting new levels of and confidence in expression. At the same time, whatever it is that the natal Lilith can offer in terms of a connectedness to nature and the cycles of the natural world can supportively influence the evolving emotional needs and desires of the person. Your job now is to open to learning more about what she has to offer you and become willing to integrate her primal, instinctive wisdom in your life.

The **opposition** indicates that your evolving needs and desires need to develop in terms of overcoming Lilith-related perceptions of limitation. In other words, you need to get over some perceived problem about expressing Lilith that you've carried for a long time. Lilith with this aspect can show you in a sense what not to do, and how not to do it. It contributes overall to healing the situation indicated by natal Lilith, helping you to take less seriously the felt need to maintain a fortress around yourself to protect from repercussions in response to Lilith-inspired behavior. Your Lilith can be seen in a light more full than usual during these several months – are you willing to see and feel everything about your Lilith, and add to your choices some things you haven't ever before considered in order to heal, release, and move beyond old wounding?

Mercury

Progressed Mercury represents your evolving voice, ways of communicating, perceiving and sensing, and interests. Over time, how you think about things and what you have to say changes. This planet progressed tells us what's happening with your evolving communication style, too.

When progressed Mercury makes an aspect with natal Lilith, it's time for your developing voice to reflect conscious contact with Lilith. Your interests will be affected by Lilith, too. How you speak, the kind of communication that feels right to engage in, and the content and actual mechanism of your speech will also be affected. Said another way, your evolving personal voice is ready to speak about, and thereby speak with, Lilith. Also, because of your new-found understanding, you can choose to teach others about Lilith and how they can connect with her, too.

Any of these aspects presents the challenge to become more conscious of how Lilith does or doesn't work in us, which is the opportunity to consciously integrate more about our irrational, primal and instinctive sides.

With progressed Mercury **conjunct** Lilith, it's time for your Lilith to find a voice. It's time to express whatever she has to say (analysis by natal house, sign and aspect will tell you what that is), to allow her irrational fire and instinctive wisdom to be spoken. You may experience a new urgency to express in some Mercurial way that you've never considered before. You may find the content of your thought and speech filled with Lilith's ideas. Or, you may open up to honest discussion about things that many find uncomfortable.

The **sextile** represents a triggering of Lilith by your evolving way of thinking and speaking. The development of your internal voice should be allowed to stir whatever your Lilith has to say and vice versa. A visceral, primal orientation to life can inform and influence your Mercurial expression.

The **square** of progressed Mercury to natal Lilith is a friction of the evolving way of thinking and perceiving and the natal understanding and experience of Lilith. New ways of thinking and speaking, as well as things heard, will present challenges to whatever is happening with your Lilith. If you're not expressing your instinctive wisdom, progressed Mercury will pressure you to begin to figure out how to do so, and show you the reasons why you haven't expressed it. If you already express Lilith, you'll be getting cues on how to communicate more openly about what she's about, and how you relate to her themes.

The **trine** brings the two energies in supportive alignment, offering the opportunity to express Lilith and themes inspired by her in new ways. Chances to stretch your mental and verbal vocabularies related to Lilith will come, and you'll serve yourself well if you open your mind to the instinctive wild and allow it to affect your perception and communication.

The **opposition** may seem to inspire a standoff between your evolving voice and your Lilith. The challenge is to allow everything you think about Lilith to come out into the open, and to learn to choose what you'll do relative to Lilith based not in past memories of suppression or abuse, but in terms of your growing and evolving understanding of what she's about. Growth in these times means that everything about your Lilith come out into the open but really, and more importantly, into your consciousness.

Venus

Progressed Venus represents our evolving sense of relating, orientation to values, and receptivity. It tells us about how our understanding of these parts of life develop on the inside, and then we need to learn how to take what's happening inside to our outer lives.

In broad strokes, progressed Venus contacting Lilith is a sign that how you interact with others, what you find important, and how open to being changed by others you are are ready to be informed by your Lilith. Your natal Lilith has a certain perspective by house, sign and aspect, and what she has to offer is ready to be integrated in your evolving way of relating.

It's a given that relationships change. Yet how often do they shift into radically deeper layers of honesty? How often do they change because we gain greater consciousness of what's right for us, and we begin to make different choices? And when this does happen, how often is it positive and honoring of both parties? This progression to your Lilith is invitation to stretch into taking the best of your Lilith into relationships, both existing and new ones made possible by whatever new level of receptivity you choose.

It's time for your primal instinct to help guide your evolving sense of relating. To get there, you'll need to try it on in one relationship or a few, and as you learn more about what your Lilith is offering by bringing it out, you'll get clues to what about your Lilith needs to be healed. In other words, your evolving relationships now offer you cues and support for healing Lilith at the same time as allowing them to be guided and shaped by what she can bring.

What do you find important? As progressed Venus indicates your evolving values, making an aspect to your natal Lilith can open the door to her message that more than the mind needs to be included in our decision making processes if we want to feel balanced and whole. For Lilith, real is visceral and visceral is real. The social edicts we may have absorbed about being kind at the expense of our sense of freedom will come up at this time, and you may find yourself hesitant to look someone in the eye with the intensity you're feeling and tell him or her the absolute truth as you know it. And yet that what's Lilith requires, whether survival is at stake or not.

Shifting to receptivity, to whom are you open? What kind of people have historically had an open invitation into your space and world? Your progressed Venus by house and sign can tell you in what ways you're ready to make changes to the open invitation you've carried around. Adding in the aspect to your natal Lilith, the conversation can be enriched by her uncompromising conviction. A high response to this progression is honoring the gut instinct that the right people are the right people, and that's that. Leaving or attempting to introduce change into your relationships doesn't need to be fueled by rage or be violent, it just needs to happen. Making a statement about for what we're available is support for this evolving Venusian energy. It's time to ask yourself, *Who's welcome in my world and for what? What kind of people, activities and energies am I available for, and to what ends?*

The **conjunction** of progressed Venus to Lilith indicates that your evolving way of relating needs to get inside and merge with Lilith. In a sense, you need to become Lilith in your relationships, learning to heal the pain behind the rage and direct your primal passion and irrational instinct to guide you to new levels of relating. The key to this progressed aspect is to allow Lilith's rawness and instinct to consciously

inform your evolving understanding of relationships, what's important to you, and what you're available for.

The **sextile** brings opportunities to allow the ways you're changing your relationships and orientation to values to trigger new levels of action of your natal Lilith. Whatever you can't see or try to ignore about your Lilith will be brought out by your relationships. The key to this progressed aspect is to allow Lilith's rawness and instinct to consciously inform your evolving understanding of relationships, what's important to you, and what you're available for.

The **square** brings friction from your relationships and your evolving understanding of fairness and harmony to whatever your natal Lilith is doing. The pressure squares bring always needs to be released, and so you're advised to get as conscious as you can about your values and the kinds of people you're open to in your life so you can consciously allow them to inform how you experience Lilith. The key to this progressed aspect is to allow Lilith's rawness and instinct to consciously inform your evolving understanding of relationships, what's important to you, and what you're available for.

The **trine** can bring new levels of support from your understanding of relationships and what's important to your Lilith. If she's been hiding out in some dark corner, you might find unprecedented opportunities to bring her out and let her do her instinctive thing. If she's not been hiding, you can explore new levels of integrating her raw, primal energy in your relationships and what's important to you. The key to this progressed aspect is to allow Lilith's rawness and instinct to consciously inform your evolving understanding of relationships, what's important to you, and what you're available for.

The **opposition** brings a confrontation of your evolving understanding of relating and your Lilith, likely with your relationships, in how they do and don't work, in some way shining a light on your Lilith. This is the time to admit into consciousness whatever you can about how and why you do or don't honor your instinctive, raw, primal, irrational side. The key to this progressed aspect is to allow Lilith's rawness and instinct to consciously inform your evolving understanding of relationships, what's important to you, and what you're available for.

Mars

Progressed Mars represents our evolving courage and self-assertion. Mars is also how things get started, and the progressed Mars indicates how our understanding of the desire and need to take action in our life is developing, as well as what we're ready to begin doing that might add to our repertory. What's going with our evolving passions is indicated by progressed Mars, so in a sense, this planet progressed shows where we want our energy to go, where it's most appropriately channeled.

With progressed Mars making an aspect to natal Lilith, it's time for where our energy goes to be informed and guided by Lilith's instinctive wisdom and primal expression. It's also time for our modes of action to open up to more of Lilith's energy and style. Courage needs to be added to and allowed to boost your experience of Lilith, which will involve some risk whether you're used to her or not.

This progression also indicates that it's time for you to release into action what's stored in your Lilith persona, that usually hidden place below the surface that's carrying a charge about having been abused or ostracized for expressing yourself naturally. It's not enough to say that more self-assertion is called for at this time. Allowing any Lilith-related indignation or rage, and the pain behind them, to come to the surface is what's being asked of you.

Choosing more consciousness of Lilith and her story, both in general and how you live it, will modulate the tenor of any negative experience into something more positive. Those of us who refuse to acknowledge the energy of Lilith inside us can find ourselves drawing negative Martian experiences during this time, but remember that living a Lilith-informed story is not about abuse and power struggles, but about learning to be true to our true, wild natures. Take everything that happens during this time as a learning experience for which you're ready.

The **conjunction** brings the need to act on your Lilith directly, from the inside out. If there is ever a time in your life that you actively need to find healthy ways of expressing Lilith, this is it. The energy of your evolving will and courage are pumping their get-up-and-go vibes into your Lilith! It's time to let go of any blocks you have against inhabiting your Lilith (to be understood in terms of natal house, sign and aspects), and go for a more primal, visceral and instinctive style of expression.

The **sextile** brings the energy of stimulation to Lilith. Synchronizing your Martian and Lilith vocabularies is important now, because your evolving courage and sense of assertion are ready to inform and trigger you into action to get to know your raw, primal, instinctive wisdom. This aspect is an invitation to figure out how better to bring your internal sense of instinctive wisdom to your life in more active and apparent ways.

The **square** of progressed Mars to natal Lilith will bring pressure to Lilith to act. Squares require some sort of resolution, and approaching this pressure consciously and proactively involves voluntarily doing something new with your Lilith energy. You'll have plenty of opportunities to respond to situations around you with a new level of wildness, or of instinctive wisdom. This time is to give you opportunities to open to express and heal more of your Lilith than you might think is comfortable. Become willing to see new things and find new expressions, because change is required with this aspect.

The **trine** will seem to feed Martian support into your Lilith, boosting whatever she's up to in you. Take the time to get to know as much of your Lilith's (probably

unspoken and unconscious) hesitation to outward action as you can, and allow yourself to move through the blocks one by one, recognizing that this time is for you to not only connect with Lilith, but to do so via a consciously chosen actions.

The **opposition** brings Mars into a kind of standoff with Lilith. This time will bring people and situations that confront you-as-Lilith, whether you express the energy or not. Use this time to increase your consciousness as much as possible about your Lilith, to see what you don't express but need to, and where whatever you do express doesn't serve you and could stand some redirection. Understand that all people and scenarios that challenge you either as Lilith or to bring her out have been attracted by you so you can see as much as possible about the energy as you live it.

Ascendant-Descendant

The progressed horizon tells of our evolving style and strategies of self-expression (Ascendant) and approaching and interacting with others (Descendant). These two are the ends of one axis, and any planet or point aspecting one of them will always aspect the other. The progressed horizon reflects our evolving way of developing and exhibiting ourselves personally and socially. All issues of self and other are affected by this axis, and as it progresses over the course of our lives, we're challenged to adapt our behavior and modes of expression to remain outwardly authentic as a reflection of our inner, changing selves. As our relationships are our most significant drivers for growth and change, this progression can present us with extremely valuable opportunities and feedback related to how to bring Lilith more into our outward expression – how to be Lilith.

With this axis coming into contact with natal Lilith, it's time for how we show ourselves to others and what we look for in others to be affected in more conscious ways by her energy and ways of being and living. She needs to be allowed more time and space to affect our personal style (Ascendant), as well as how we relate to others and the kind of other we feel good about relating with (Descendant).

The opportunity is in allowing Lilith to come out into our external expression, showing us how we could use an upgrade into a more relevant self-expression rooted in a more instinctive relation to ourselves and willingness to be that more whole version of us in our relationships with others.

With the **conjunction** of progressed Ascendant to Lilith, she needs to be integrated into the person's outer expression, even as it means challenging how the person feels he or she should interact with others. This is a statement that the native is ready to learn what it means to explore trying Lilith's understanding and expression on for size, and in a visible way. This also indicates that the body itself is ready to experience Lilith's wisdom, and the native should make time and space to explore new ways of experiencing the body in more directly primal ways. The body will respond with its innate wisdom when given the chance to provide input, and this progressed aspect says it's time to give the body that chance.

With the **sextile** of the Ascendant to Lilith, what one learns in interactions with others during these aspects can be allowed to trigger a reconnection with the wild inside. The person will be presented with opportunities to bring Lilith more out into the open as self and with others, and the opportunities to express more instinctual sides of the self may seem answers to questions of the moment. Taking advantage of such opportunities can allow a strengthening of one's relationship with Lilith, providing a view on integrating the wisdom she offers with the assistance of others. These aspects are stimulating and supportive, yet we create opportunities to act on our Lilith, and be open to those that come to us.

A person's natal Lilith with the **square** to this axis by progression will be drawn into a dialogue between the evolving sense of relating to self and other that challenges his or her long-held assumptions about how and why to express his or her Lilith. The evolving sense of how to interact with others, how to be who one is and how to take that to others, is presenting friction to Lilith. The person has all the choice in the world about how to respond to this pressure, which is an opportunity to grow.

The challenges will come both from existing relationships and new ones with people unlike those with whom the native has been around before. With this

progression, it's time to allow one's Lilith to inform us as we explore new levels of challenge to honor our natural selves, and the perspectives we have that are rooted in instinctual response and cannot be rationalized for others. This is a time of finding out how, in the company of others, we need to be more like Lilith in our lives. There are those of us who will have already understood something internal about our Lilith but need this progression to stir us into an authentic way of expressing the energy of Lilith.

The progressed Ascendant **trine** Lilith will inspire you to boost your expression of or identity as Lilith. In order to express yourself fully and well now, you need to bring Lilith out in ways that expand whatever dialogue of which you are part. You are now in the position to bring Lilith to others in positive ways and perhaps ways you've never thought of or seen before. The sextile from the progressed Descendant will bring you people who are activated by Lilith in general and you-as-Lilith specifically. Let them teach you something but don't let it be that Lilith needs to hide or be kept under the radar.

When the progressed Ascendant **opposes** Lilith, she needs to come to bear on who is considered relationship material. Not just romantic relationships, but all relationships. The Descendant represents our way of approaching and relating to anyone we perceive as equals. Lilith here needs to be integrated into how the person chooses relationships and relationship partners, even as it means challenging how the person feels he or she needs to show the self (opposing the Ascendant). To help with this process, the person will draw others who obviously bring outward Lilith energy, capable of positive and negative expressions of various sides and levels of Lilith's experience. The underlying statement of evolution is that the person with this angle progressing to his or her Lilith is ready to learn to meet Lilith in others.

Midheaven-Nadir

The progressed Midheaven/Nadir axis represents our evolving way of balancing our places in the outer world (Midheaven)and our inner lives (Nadir). This axis shows us the conversation inside us about how we prioritize each sector of life and, hopefully, how we learn to honor the needs we have to develop both our public and private selves. When this axis progresses to contact our natal Lilith, it's time to allow her instinctive wisdom to inform how we create our public and private selves.

With the **conjunction** of the Midheaven to Lilith, it's time for the evolving way you publicly define yourself, who you choose to be in the world, to begin to reflect what your natal Lilith has to say. The evolution of your public persona requires that you integrate an awareness of Lilith's honoring of the cycles of nature, and her instinctive approach. For many, this will inspire a shift in the kind of work that seems relevant and necessary, and to which one can appropriately contribute. It doesn't necessitate a job or career change, but that can happen. The bottom line is that with the progressed MC conjuncting Lilith, it's time for you to learn to bring some aspect of your Lilith with you into your public life.

The progressed Nadir's simultaneous opposition to Lilith creates a tension between the evolving private self and Lilith. As the IC indicates our past, and the progressed Nadir can represent the evolution of our relationship with the past, this will often indicate a need to heal all issues carried with you about what it means to express Lilith. Whether this indicates those you learned from your family and clan or those from your personal experience, old attitudes and judgments about Lilith and her irrational, instinctive, primal way of being needs to be released. An orientation to the present moment is needed to facilitate releasing the past, to enable space to bring positive and affirming expressions of Lilith to your public role. Issues related to Lilith might manifest in your literal family, close circle of friends or at home, to give you the opportunity to explore more natural ways of being that you might find challenging.

The **sextile** from the progressed Midheaven facilitates stimulation from your public face and self to how you do your own Lilith. This can be a kind of goading in the form of some issue at work or in your community that requires that you bring something about Lilith out. It can be a fight for justice or equality, or that you need to make a statement that you or someone else deserves to be heard. The concurrent trine from the progressed Nadir seeks to let you know that you do have what it takes in your inner self to make that happen in an effective, proactive way that avoids recreating the patriarchal war on the feminine in all its forms.

Squares bring pressure to change. The progressed Midheaven/Nadir axis squaring your natal Lilith brings the evolving balance of your public and private lives into an argument with your Lilith. You'll feel pressured by inner and outer forces to change how you understand, relate to and choose to experience Lilith. Squares require change, and your opportunity is in releasing creative energy into your Lilith, whose message for you can be seen by her natal house, sign and aspect in your chart. Your public and private lives need to be allowed to stir your relationship to Lilith to grow into new dimensions.

This can manifest as people in your private and public roles seeming to call your Lilith out into the open. Understand that you're being asked to evaluate your stance on hiding Lilith or the ways you express her energy in your life, and to let go of either

if they aren't serving you. With this progressed aspect, it's certain that whatever you're doing with your Lilith needs to be upgraded, and allowed to change.

The **trine** from progressed Midheaven to Lilith will ask you to let your role in your community or at work draw you out as a Lilith figure. There is wisdom in your sensory orientation toward what is true. Nothing that looks good on paper can fly if your whole being does not vibrate that it is true. The simultaneous sextile from the progressed Nadir will have your inner reality providing some fodder for the dialogue or, as the case may be, ammunition. Let your inner take on how things should be unfolding and why determine what happens on the outside, no matter the status quo-defending machinery in which you might find yourself wrapped up.

With the **opposition** of the Midheaven to Lilith, the evolving personal relationship with Lilith is ready to be developed. The internal relevance of Lilith's instinctive wisdom and primal relationship to nature needs to be integrated. Doing this will rest on your willingness to look into your past history related to Lilith issues. What you learned in your family growing up and experienced when younger is up for healing.

This is in essence an opportunity to heal your history by reinventing your understanding of Lilith as a contributor to your personal foundation. The Nadir represents our emotional foundation, and as it progresses, our relationship with our innermost selves is ready to evolve. The progressed Nadir conjuncting Lilith offers the opportunity to learn about Lilith from the inside out.

The progressed Midheaven's simultaneous opposition to your Lilith indicates that it's time for you to learn how to reclassify negative reactions to you-as-Lilith you might have received. Altering your internal relationship with Lilith should provide you the means of connecting with her in a more direct way, allowing you to see that negative reactions others have to you-as-Lilith are based in others' fear of the natural wild. At this time, the fears of others should no longer be permitted to negatively influence your relationship to yourself.

Lilith in Relationship

Lilith's journey begins in her relationship with Adam. She rejected his attempts to dominate her and left him in order to pursue unfettered, authentic self-expression. Yet it is inaccurate to assume that all relationships in which Lilith is active do or should end with conflict and flight, as the myth as we have received it suggests. Far from it, in fact. What has laid the ground for so many Lilith-informed relationships that do end with conflict and flight is a general and pervasive confusion that the myth – about the wild feminine being a demonic influence – is interchangeable with the archetype, which is about how we experience the wild feminine in our lives.

As we've seen, the true Black Moon for an individual represents a cache of emotional history that requires much patience, acceptance, self-love and forgiveness to deepen into and navigate successfully. When Lilith is active in relationships the positive or negative quality of her influence depends on how each party responds to and reacts to her. In other words, their individual relationships with the energy will determine how they react to Lilith in each other. For this reason it is imperative for each individual in a relationship to take responsibility for his or her own emotional and relationship histories and take steps to heal whatever in them needs healing.

Lilith's themes coming up in relationship can be a signal that one or each person needs to revisit his or her own Lilith energy to clean up any outstanding debris from relationship histories that might be getting in the way. When this happens, flight may seem the easiest thing to do. Yet Lilith *can* exist in healthy relationship with others. It is important to her – she and Adam are halves of a whole, after all – and she can be in healthy relationship if she makes space within it to be true to herself. If she honors herself at all times – what should be a commonplace understanding these days about the seed necessary for creating healthy relationships – then she is more than willing to invest in relationships and, in fact, do so deeply. Remember that she's very conscious of the fact that she has another half. That it is Adam, a conformist brown noser/butt kisser who utterly fails to understand how to take responsibility for his actions and treat her as an equal, is the problem – not men in general, as the mythos we've received can seem to imply from Lilith's standpoint as the angry woman who has been wronged and is out for vengeance.

People with strong Lilith energies can thrive in relationships if they admit their true, wild-inspired natures, love themselves for it, and choose partners who in their own lives can do the same. Those who have developed conscious awareness of their Lilith sides seek partners who either have strong ties to the energy in themselves or are open enough to accept the energy in others. If you find yourself in one or more ways rather like Lilith but find yourself in relationships where she is not really welcome, this is a signal of one or more things: you are not expressing Lilith, not taking responsibility for yourself, not honoring yourself first, or not recognizing that your outer reality needs to reflect your inner reality. Take any such relationship patterns as a cue to focus on your own willingness and ability to express what your true Black Moon has to say about who you truly are on the inside.

Violence in Relationship

The standard take on Lilith's story can lead to confusion about how to deal with Lilith energy both in ourselves and in others. We've been taught that control of the wild feminine at all costs is necessary to be appropriate socially and even for our survival, and "at all costs" many times leads to or can include violence as we find

ourselves desperate to do something about the wild standing in front of us. Relationship models that revolve around "power-over" dynamics reflect the cultural malaise that we crave to heal and we can heal it by altering our relationship with Lilith and accepting her into our lives and relationships. We must remember that the perpetrators of violence are as much victims as those to whom they bring violence. They are acting out on the individual level the cultural distortion we all inherit in our collective quest to learn what to do with the natural, wild feminine – how to be it and how to meet it in others.

The assumption that one's mate is to be controlled is part of this sickness. Flight from abusive situations is of course important when necessary, but we should be careful to remember that it is not automatically part of how we will live Lilith's stories. It is simply the most convenient end to a story told to make us fearful of what cannot be controlled: She either submits (and thereby submits to control, abuse, or violence of some kind) or she leaves.

Lilith in Synastry

Synastry involves putting two charts next to each other to see how individuals affect each other. It is basically a look at what buttons people push in each other for better or worse. The opportunity is to understand in what ways we can be teachers for each other even with the difficult situations that we get ourselves into together.

Understanding Lilith in synastry rests on understanding the buttons being pushed, which rests on understanding clearly how each of the two people deals with his or her Lilith energy. We have to understand where each person falls along the spectrums of denying or accepting his or her own true nature, having absorbed the cultural fears of the wild or rejected them, relating to or denying the wisdom of his or her own body, and how control-oriented he or she feels it is important to be. All of these are important metrics for where one is in his or her relationship with the Lilith archetype.

For those with uncomfortable relationships with their own Liliths, having her activated by and brought out through relationships with others would be either very uncomfortable and inspire a lot of anger and confusion, or very healing in providing opportunities to know and accept the self in new and important ways. People have free will and act from all sorts of motivations including those based in past conditioning, so we can't know from someone's natal chart how he or she understands and lives Lilith energy and therefore how he or she will respond as Lilith to others, and to others as Lilith.

You might find people asking about the synastry of Lilith dealing for the first time with their Liliths, eager to know the effects they have on and from others when it comes to this energy that we are taught is negative and only gets in the way of everything functioning smoothly. From birth charts we cannot always tell what kind of teachers people will turn out to be for one another, and we all have relationships over the course of time that serve to bring out many different parts of us. Because of the cultural history on Earth surrounding dealing with Lilith and the times of quick evolutionary growth through which we are now living, many people are finding themselves in relationships that provide opportunities to learn to make peace with themselves as Lilith and heal related issues when it comes to equality, autonomy, the wisdom of the body, and all corners of sexuality and sexual expression.

When it comes to how bodies and points in individual birth charts affect those of others, which is the pushing of buttons relationships at root are for us, there are therefore limitless possibilities. When first learning about Lilith and finding oneself in a relationship that is bringing it out, it is easy to ask what it means that someone's Moon, for example, opposes one's own Lilith. We need to take time to be realistic about how the Lilith person experiences this energy, because there is in fact no clear-cut, ready-made answer. If he or she is new to Lilith, then I advise that he or she learn the story as presented above. This will ensure that Lilith can be approached with conscious awareness so that the demonization of the wild and the natural feminine is stopped and Lilith re-imagined in our minds and hearts.

How Lilith is experienced in relationship can be summed up through answering the following question: Is what cannot be predicted and controlled approached with fear (criticism and abuse) or is it approached with openness (allowing the energy and wisdom of the natural world to inform us about who we are)? The answer for each person in a relationship will determine much of how Lilith is brought out by one partner and responded to by the other.

As you read the sections below, keep in mind the differing energies of each aspect. You will read about the energies in conversation with each other, and you will need to plug in the feeling each aspect brings. The ones I work with are as follows:

- Conjunctions are direct contact between the two energies.
- Sextiles represent stimulation and triggering.
- Squares are friction and pressure to change.
- Trines bring support and a boost.
- Quincunxes are the energy of discomfort.
- Oppositions are confrontations or stand-offs.

Lilith-Sun

The Sun person brings light to the Lilith person. Just by being who he or she is, the other person's Lilith is activated. If the Lilith person has unresolved anger and resentment for being suppressed, being around the Sun person could be very difficult. The light the Sun person shines is his or her natural self, and he or she likely will not understand when the Lilith person gets uncomfortable or becomes reactive to being activated.

The Lilith person can take this as an opportunity to learn to bring his or her Lilith into the open and learn to spend time with this naturally occurring energy within. If the Lilith person is willing to let his or wild be stimulated and learn to interact with the Sun person in honest and loving ways, their relationship can be deeply healing. The Lilith person will need to learn not to take the strong, shining energy of the Sun person to be a threat if it isn't, and not to assume the Sun person is an enemy.

The Sun person might slip into the natural role of Adam and think that the Lilith person might need to be controlled or inspired to tone his or her behavior down. As the Sun is a decision maker in any of us, the Sun person must learn to understand the effect he or she can have on the Lilith person while understanding that there is a choice to be made about the quality of light he or she will shine on the other, either loving or judging.

Lilith-Moon

The Moon person brings a personal, receptive energy to the Lilith person. The Moon person's emotional nature and softer side will be confronted by the intensity of the Lilith person. If the Lilith person is carrying unresolved negative emotions from a history of abuse and oppression, the Moon person might feel overloaded by the intense energy coming from the Lilith person.

The Lilith person will probably sense on some level a quality of receptivity from the Moon person and might take the opportunity to begin getting in touch with or communicating the old anger and resentment. Moon energy can seem a safe space for our troubles, and the Lilith person might naturally respond to the Moon person in open ways because of the perceived potential for acceptance and nurturing, for the provision of a safe space for unloading all the pain and anger from the past.

Lilith's energy is erratic, and it might be jarring for the Moon person if he or she is not adept at energetic and emotional boundaries and self-care. The Moon person might be shaken or knocked out of stability by the intensity of the feelings of the Lilith person. The Lilith person might find the opportunity to open up the door to his or her own intensity irresistible if he or she perceives no one else will listen or wants to be around him or her. Responsibility for self and appropriate boundaries are the keys to making Moon-Lilith relationships work.

Lilith-Mercury

Mercury is the perception and communication function within a person. When one person's Mercury aspects another's Lilith, an exploration or dialogue begins that centers on Lilith themes. The Mercury person's mind and speech are brought to life in a new way as a result, and the Lilith person might feel for the first time that there is room to communicate openly about being a Lilith sort of figure and all that that means and requires.

If either of them fears Lilith, the dialogue that results might turn in a critical direction. This can have the Mercury person feeling that he or she either can't be honest or must fight and be in conflict with the Lilith person. The Lilith person in turn may feel on edge with the eagle eye of the Mercury person on him or her, feeling unable to naturally be the self without criticism or conflict.

The Lilith person needs to open to clear reflection from the Mercury person and the Mercury person needs to be sure he or she is offering only what will prove useful to the Lilith person. The benefit to the Mercury person is that he or she can experience an opening of the mind through detached observation and acceptance of the workings of the Lilith person, in time coming to understand that there is benefit in being part of activities and relationships in which everything is not controlled and analyzed. The Mercury person needs to be opened to the effect of the wild in everyday life when it comes to humans' realities, and the Lilith person can be an example of this.

Lilith-Venus

Venus represents values, sensuality, comfort, and how we relate to others. There is a certain level of politeness that comes with many people's Venuses and most of us do what we can not to offend others. One person's Lilith in contact with another's Venus can bring the energy of the wild out of one person and present it in the face of another person trying to be calm, kind, appropriate, and polite.

The Venus person can reflect to the Lilith person that there are times and places for certain kinds of expression. At the same time, the Lilith person can reflect to the Venus person that the rules he or she uses to determine this are probably based in a motivation to be nicer than honesty and true self-care allow. The Venus person needs to understand that honoring instinct can guide him or her to social situations and dynamics that work best, correcting the belief in him or her that many people tend to run by default in their mental software about relationships: being with others might have to do not with who they are but who they were or are supposed to be.

The Lilith person needs to understand that respecting the needs and wishes of others does not have to be at the expense of personal expression and autonomy. He or she also can learn from the Venus person that anger carried and tossed around affects others in real ways. This is a setup for the Lilith person to learn to take care of anger and resentment issues carried thus far in relationship because the effect on the Venus person will be readily apparent.

If this is a romantic or sexual relationship, there is the possibility for this Lilith and Venus to be triggered into a sensuality and expression of sexuality that can take them as a pair deeply into their bodies as they have never been before. Getting lost in the feel and sensation of things, far from mental expression of all kinds, is healing for us all as we learn to integrate Lilith into our lives by being more in touch with the energies and chemistries of our physical selves.

Lilith-Mars

Mars represents a person's will, desire, and self-assertion functions. When Mars in one person comes into contact with Lilith in another, there are distinct possibilities

based on how each approaches each energy. If the Mars person tries to dominate the Lilith person in an effort to bring order and direction to the Lilith's person life or expression, fireworks can result if the Lilith person is one who has decided not to be controlled. If the Lilith person responds to the Mars person with anger because of past relationship issues with Mars people, sparks can also result.

The Mars person needs to understand that the urge to control is a result of desire for the Lilith person whether that is sexual or simply about proximity and involvement in some way in his or her life. The Mars person needs to allow feeling sparked by the Lilith person while admitting the possibility that there is and should be nothing to do in response.

The Lilith person needs to understand that an energy of masculine fire such as Mars is not automatically going to create trouble. He or she needs to adapt to the possibility that just because this energy is present in a dynamic does not mean that there will or should be power dynamics present aimed at making the Lilith person feel small, less than, or shoved into a tiny box in which he or she would go mad.

When healthy, this interaspect offers an opening into each party learning about the right ways to understand, approach, express, and respond to will and desire. There needs to be a flow of energy between these two that allows for momentary inspiration of various kinds. Each carries a cache of passion that the other can spark and so the dynamic needs to be infused with trust, compassion, and acceptance in order for energies to flow in constructive, relationship-building ways between them.

Lilith-Jupiter

Jupiter in a person is the part that believes, hopes, has faith, and can think big and take risks. There is an expansive quality to a person's Jupiter. When Lilith meets Jupiter in relationship, the Jupiter person will have to confront beliefs he or she may carry about all of Lilith's themes. The Lilith person might find him- or herself in relationship with someone who believes things so strongly that it seems impossible to reason with the other or create any sort of presence and togetherness based in reality with him or her.

The Jupiter person needs to learn how to become present in order to be on the same page with the Lilith person and thereby create a relationship grounded in their current shared reality. He or she might find the Lilith person apparently too erratic to do anything of value with, as the Lilith person's whims might change suddenly and frequently over time. The gift waiting for the Jupiter person is in expanding and thinking big through presence that the Lilith person can trigger and inspire.

The Lilith person needs to learn how to stem the tide of reactivity in the face of people who seem at first not able or willing to listen and be present, as part of the Lilith wound in many is in not being seen as an individual worthy of being left to be autonomous. He or she might encounter the Jupiter person as seeing the world (and the Lilith person) through some sort of tinted lenses and needs to use the lower-chakra sense of presence and the wisdom of the natural world as expressed through the senses and the physical form to bring the Jupiter person out of stuck places of belief (including pessimism that prevents an openness to joy). The gift waiting for the Lilith person from the Jupiter person is exposure to the power of belief and if the Lilith person is willing to see it, he or she can understand that the healing and healthy route to being Lilith in a world that has forgotten and fears her happens through believing that he or she can create a place in the world through a belief that he or she has the right to do so.

Lilith-Saturn

Saturn within a person seeks to create structure, be responsible and mature, and work hard toward definite goals and ends. One of the primary tools of Saturn is control, and so when Lilith meets Saturn in relationship of any kind the cultural history of suppressing the natural feminine as it exists in individuals and in the natural world can be played out. The levels of compassion and respect that each person has for the other will determine much of what unfolds.

The Saturn person will be confronted with the energy of the Lilith person as something that cannot be controlled. If the Saturn person decides that more stringent efforts and more direct methods are needed in order to bring the Lilith person under control are needed, much conflict can arise. The Saturn person needs to understand that the natural wild world exists within each and every human (including him or her, even if this chagrins the Saturn person!) and the person in front of him or her needs to be dealt with as a unique individual deserving of respect and being left to develop and live through autonomy.

Even if the Saturn person brings that energy in kind and supportive ways – a positive side of Saturn – the very energy of Saturn meeting the Lilith person can make the Lilith person feel threatened or suppressed. The Lilith person needs to learn to deal with the Saturn person as a unique individual who has perhaps been conditioned to fear what cannot be controlled and taught to do something about bringing order to chaos wherever it exists. The Lilith person can offer the Saturn person an out when it comes to "shoulds" that complicate life and make him or her feeling heavy or deadened inside.

The Lilith person through this relationship can learn to shed the weight and oppressive feelings gained from past experience in Saturnian culture. The Saturn person through this relationship can learn to be more present in the moment, come out of his or her head, and learn to work with the natural wild as it exists in others and the natural world instead of trying to control, shape, and direct it in ways that stifle and suppress its wildness.

Lilith-Chiron

A person's Chiron is the energetic antenna through which he or she senses energy and emotion from others and in his or her environments.[17] The standard considerations about Chiron figures as wounded or wounded healers are in fact byproducts of this energetic and emotional sensitivity – in the face of our energetic sensitivity we can make a choice to feel sorry for ourselves and invest in a perception of wounded or turn it inside out in order to help others who are hurting. There is a wound each person carries regarding Chiron that is about a fear of rejection for being and expressing who we are. When Chiron and Lilith meet in relationship there is the possibility for the Chiron person's wound to be triggered by the erratic shifts of energy and mood possible in the Lilith person and for the Lilith person to have his or her anger from past relationship dynamics brought up into the open by the Chiron person's ability to sense and read emotion and energy.

The Chiron person needs to learn to see the energy of the natural wild feminine for what it is – a part of self and other that is not intentionally threatening his or her perception of emotional safety and security. The Chiron person can learn from the Lilith person about honoring all parts of the self, even those that are wounded and carry pain and anger.

The Lilith person needs to learn to see that the reactions of others to him or her are in fact reflective of those people's inner emotional realities. The Lilith person can learn from the Chiron person to prioritize emotional realities even teaching the sometimes subtle and not often seen truth that anger always masks pain. The Lilith person can be in a position to pull back from anger enough to heal the pain that is at the heart of it.

Lilith-Uranus

Uranus in a person represents his or her freedom threshold, innate genius, and need to be original and free from constraint in order to feel fully alive. As a marker of sudden change, it also speaks about how a person might draw trauma to the self. Uranus meeting Lilith in relationship stirs a dialogue that for each person can center on not being willing to put up with nonsense and not being willing to compromise in the face of others' issues.

The Uranus person will experience a need to free the self from any and all anger and pain that the Lilith person may carry. The end of the Uranus person's patience might not come immediately as sometimes we need to experience a water-behind-the-dam release when it comes to honoring our Uranian need to be free. The Lilith person's anger and reactivity in the face of being controlled or the threat of it might strike the Uranus person as a turn-off, and the Uranus person needs to learn that proactive, honest, open communication about what he or she is experiencing is paramount to making a relationship with the Lilith person work. There can be a tendency in the Uranus person to throw the baby out with the bathwater once his or her patience with the Lilith person's emotional states ends.

The Lilith person may experience the Uranus person's generalized state of detachment when it comes to the Lilith person's feelings as a rejection or attempt to deny the Lilith person's right to have and express feelings. For this reason the Lilith person needs to recognize that his or her issues do not belong to anyone else and that no one else should be held accountable and responsible for the emotions the Lilith person has carried about equality, autonomy, respect, and other Lilith themes. The Lilith person can learn from the Uranus person how to create some distance from intense emotionality in order to be able to clearly see what is in fact happening and if he or she takes this cue, reactivity toward others can be significantly mitigated or ended.

Lilith-Neptune

Neptune represents the part of a person through which he or she opens to and feels a part of the greater whole of life or the Universe. In a chart it tells us both how the person might be inclined to try to escape normal, regular experiences of reality as well as how he or she needs to do so in order to feel a part of the greater whole. Lilith in conversation with Neptune in relationship invites the Neptune person to be fully present with the kinds of raw emotional states the Lilith person can experience. The Lilith person can be challenged to keep the attention of the Neptune person while the Neptune person can feel somewhat lost when it comes to dealing with the rawness of the Lilith person.

The Neptune person needs to learn to honor the personal reality of the Lilith person while reflecting that there are healing routes to deal with anger and pain. The Neptune person may perceive that he or she can see the truth of what the Lilith person is experiencing and therefore clarity in communication will prove important to make sure that cycles of pained or angry reactivity are not engendered and fed.

The Lilith person needs to learn from the Neptune person how to feel and sense what is happening around him or her and lose any belief that people might be out to suppress him or her. The Lilith person might perceive the Neptune person as distant and not possible to engage when it comes to specific issues about which the Lilith person feels strongly. Ideally this will serve to teach the Lilith person to choose to come out of conflict with others when it comes to experiencing anger and pain such that he or she sees the importance of dealing with these feelings in proactive ways and not expecting others to get involved unnecessarily.

Lilith-Pluto

Pluto in a person tells us about the multilife empowerment journey of the soul. The soul intends that its human manifestations learn to become strong and confident through their Pluto placements. On Earth we have lived through duality as long as we have been here, which means that when one sets out to be strong there is a percentage of the time when someone or something else turn out to be stronger. For this reason Pluto in each of us represents how we seek to become strong and confident as well as our deepest pain and how we may feel powerless in life. If the two people tend toward criticism or fear-based attitudes and responses, Lilith meeting Pluto in relationship can bring up deep conflict. It also can stir deep passion and validation as long as the two parties are open to growth through learning together about some of the more intense situations into which humans can get themselves.

The Pluto person can carry anger rooted in pain on a very deep level that may trigger the Lilith person to feel a need to defend him- or herself. The Pluto person needs to learn how to take responsibility for his or her pain and sense of powerlessness in life and ensure that he or she sheds any perception that others are responsible for those feelings. If he or she does not do this, there may be a tendency toward controlling others who seem to trigger his or her pain.

The Lilith person can carry anger rooted in pain from many relationships and other dynamics in life in which he or she has been treated as less than, controlled, or dominated in various ways. The Lilith person needs to learn through this relationship to take back personal power through releasing the perception that the Pluto person is controlling him or her when it is not true. If the Pluto person in fact is doing so, the Lilith person needs to gather up the strength to establish healthy boundaries with the Pluto person in order to continue being able to relate with him or her.

Pluto-Lilith interaspects offer each person the opportunity to come out of a sense of powerlessness, though the details for each person likely vary. Mutual respect is important when it comes to all Lilith contacts in synastry yet for this set of aspects it is essential to healthy navigation of each person's issues. These two archetypes are considered to hold much darkness and so all in relationship who have Pluto and Lilith aspecting each other simply must get to the point that they can be in their own depths while activating the depth of the other in conscious, supportive, self-responsible, and respectful ways.

Lilith-Ascendant/Descendant

The Ascendant/Descendant person's style and sense of fairness and harmony will stimulate and be stimulated by the Lilith person's cache of the wild, whether the Lilith person is aware of this within the self or not. The horizon is the self-other axis in the chart, and it is how we explore what is ours and what belongs to other people. All issues about fairness and what is appropriate will come up for the Ascendant/Descendant person in response to the Lilith person, and this can include

wanting to be free of the anger and pain the other might carry or wanting to be a supportive and healing influence, working to find the right balance of self-care and care of other that will help each person live as they with.

The Lilith person can learn about boundaries from the Ascendant/Descendant person in what are responsible ways to relate to others as Lilith and what are not. This can be that the Lilith person finds the Ascendant/Descendant person unwilling to engage in a fight about Lilith issues that come up. If the Lilith person is carrying the anger and pain that often comes with carrying Lilith's themes with us in our lives, he or she might perceive it's necessary to be engaged in conflict. There may even be a level of identity he or she has about being treated poorly as a Lilith figure. Righteous anger and disempowered self-pity are reflections of identities that can arise within us when it comes to Lilith, and the Ascendant-Descendant person if healthy might see precisely what is going on and refuse to engage in either.

It is also true that the Ascendant/Descendant person is a teacher for the Lilith person to become aware of the effects he or she has on others when carrying and handing out unprocessed pain and anger from the past. The former here will always a be a mirror for the Lilith person that one's bitterness and resentment toward the types of people who stifle the inner and outer wild in the spirit of control affects others in his or her life. If the Ascendant-Descendant person is grounded and stable, this reflection can be offered in a loving way instead of simply shutting the Lilith person and his or her anger out.

Lilith-Midheaven/Nadir

The Midheaven-Nadir axis is the polarity in a person's life between public and private. One person's Lilith aspecting another's public-private axis will challenge him or her to deal with any imbalances between these two parts of life. The Lilith person brings a rawness (whether he or she is aware of it or not) that affects how the MC/IC person approaches inner and outer life. This can result in new levels of clarity about the purpose of the public persona the latter has chosen to create and bring to the world, and/or the kind of inner priorities that are held and committed to.

The Midheaven-Nadir person can bring to the Lilith person stimulation to rethink how he or she relates to bringing this part of the self out in the open. The former will have opinions, ideas, and strategies to share with the Lilith person when it comes to making decisions about what about the Lilith self is ready to be explored in inner and outer arenas. This could come in the form of judgments and opinions that the Lilith person is too loud, self-obsessed, or angry. It could also be a resentment that the Lilith person seems to be unable to control his or her emotions, criticizing him or her for not understanding the appropriate times or places for personal expression. If the Lilith person hears this as a personal criticism or attack things can get hairy and so it is best to ensure that each partner is committed to loving and supporting the other, choosing to refrain from criticism that gets in the way of true communication.

The Lilith person can reflect to the Midheaven-Nadir person that he or she might not be fully true to the self when it comes to how inner and outer lives are approached. How most of us choose professions is based in our minds, and the Lilith person here can provide valuable insight into how that is and is not working for the other person. The effect will also have to do with the Nadir side of things, in which the Lilith person might see that the Midheaven-Nadir person isn't being true to him- or herself at home and when it comes to family, hearth, and innermost needs and nurturing.

Lilith-Nodal Axis

The nodes of the Moon for a person indicate what modes of being with which the person is most comfortable (South Node or SN) and with what the person is least familiar with yet needs to learn in order to grow as a human (North Node or NN). When Lilith in one person enters into a conversation with another person's nodes, each end of this important axis becomes activated by the wild energy of Lilith.

The aspects to the SN will stimulate the node person's comfort zone, habits, assumptions, and preferences. It could be that the unpredictable nature of what the Lilith person brings him or her stirs up the node person's fears about safety and security. The simultaneous aspects to the NN will present the node person opportunities for growth by being willing to try on new ways of being and learning the value in making new choices that take him or her out of that comfort zone and challenge his or her assumptions and beliefs about what should be happening.

For the Lilith person, the node person's habits and preferred ways of being can touch off his or her emotional side including the raw cache of emotions from having felt stifled, controlled, and/or stepped on as a result of carrying attitudes and behaviors that challenge the status quo. The Lilith person needs to ensure that he or she does not view the node person as a source of further suppression or abuse and can learn from the node person how to honor where another person is coming from even each is challenged by the other.

The node person needs to learn to open to stimulation from the Lilith person that will ultimately lead to growth. The Lilith person presents something unpredictable and perhaps a little bit wild but also can bring to the relationship anger sourced in pain from his or her past. The node person should develop clear and consistent boundaries when it comes to dealing with the Lilith person's emotional states – inviting the Lilith person to learn to take responsibility for and ultimately come out of the difficult ones and heal.

Lilith-Lilith

This interaspect can be the best of Lilith situations or the worst, depending upon how each person deals with not just his or her own Lilith but also how he or she deals with encountering Lilith within others. If either one is afraid of Lilith within others or retains resentment from past dynamics that have lead to him or her feeling unimportant, unequal, or worth hurting or abusing, this interaspect can have the two people reacting to each other in negative ways and wondering if they should even bother being together. When Lilith inside us is hurting there can be a sense that we are all alone and so if there is not mutual support and respect, things with this aspect between two people can prove difficult and painful.

If each person honors the wild wisdom within his or her body and behaves in accordance with it, this dynamic can help each deepen into his or her relationship with Lilith. The creative possibilities can be found and let out into the open, and the sense of honoring the wild can be shared. The myth tells us that Lilith must go off on her own and we have seen through the nine stages of the archetypal process that solitude is important, but it does not end there. To have a partner in honoring the wild can be deeply healing. People with Liliths in conversation can together make great strides in helping others to accept the wild feminine as part of themselves, teaching others by example how to cease fearing what cannot be controlled through mental, intellectual, emotional, and physical control and manipulation.

Lilith in the Composite Chart

A composite chart is a blending of two or more charts populated by the midpoints of the placements of the people involved. Between two people, it represents the third thing they create when they come together. It shows us on one level what the existence of the relationship serves and, on another level, what the two people can do together that they can't do apart. This is the chart of the relationship as a self-contained unit with an agenda of its own that adds to the agendas of each person.

With Lilith prominent in a composite chart, a joint experience of the instinctive wild is important to the relationship not only to the people to whom the composite chart belongs but also to those around them. Our relationships serve functions in our surrounding environments and when Lilith is emphasized in a composite chart, Lilith is part of what the relationship exists to do and be. With a prominent composite Lilith we should be encouraged to figure out how to positively affect the world around us with an awareness of the natural wild and a respect for the uncontrollable feminine that exists within all people and all things as well as the Earth itself. Lilith in such a relationship should also be part of the couple's "homework" together – something they can explore, learn through, and at least at some point offer others together as a pair. This can take a variety of forms depending on the symbolism of the placement of the composite Lilith, how each individual relates to the energy, and what decisions if any they make together about the nature and place of instinct in their life together.

Refer to the explanations above of natal true BML placements to get a feel for a composite Lilith keeping in mind that you are with the composite chart looking at how the two people function together as a unit.

I consider the true BML prominent in a composite if it is aspecting any of the angles, Sun, or Moon, or in aspect to the nodal structure or Pluto. The more hits and the tighter the orbs, the stronger it is. Regardless of where the true Black Moon is in the composite, there is the opportunity to learn about Lilith themes and issues in ways together that each individual cannot do on his or her own. This is to say that any relationship can serve to teach us about the natural wild and the feminine as it exists in others and the natural world. Our openness to recognizing and experiencing instinct and our orientation toward reacting to it as a negative or responding to it as a positive will have much to do with how we conceive of Lilith's energy and themes as individuals, but there is an important opportunity that exists for us to teach each other through new approaches and responses to and with each other.

About The Author

Tom Jacobs is an Evolutionary Astrologer, Medium, and Channel. A graduate of Evolutionary Astrologer Steven Forrest's Apprenticeship Program, he has an active global practice of readings and coaching to help people understand what they came to Earth to do and supporting them in making it happen. Tom is the author or channel of ten books on astrology, mythology, and spirituality and original astrological natal reports on Lilith and the shifts happening now that culminate in 2012. He offers a groundbreaking audio course on Chiron based on channelings from Ascended Master Djehuty, "Chiron, 2012, and the Aquarian Age: The Key and How to Use It."

Contact Tom Jacobs via http://tdjacobs.com.

---

[1] See *Goddess Past, Present, and Future* for a full exploration of the natural and Divine feminine and how we can shift our relationship to it in our world and lives.

[2] If we have experienced suppression, we have at the soul level sighed up to do so. All those who have participated in it for us are in fact teachers for us and we need to cultivate gratitude for them. See *The Soul's Journey I Astrology, Reincarnation, and Karma with a Medium and Channel* for an exploration of this idea.

[3] See *Living Myth: Exploring Archetypal Journeys* for more on this, including tours through ten mythic stories and archetypal journeys.

[4] See *Living Myth* for a treatment of the story of Lucifer, which represents this shift from demonizing the feminine to demonizing the masculine with the advent of Christianity.

[5] See *Goddess Past, Present, and Future*.

[6] See *The Soul's Journey I: Astrology, Reincarnation, and Karma with a Medium and Channel*.

[7] Those raised in Christian traditions have also mostly not heard of Lilith. The Hebrew tradition solidified an approach to Lilith, and therefore the natural, wild feminine and when Christianity emerged, Eve was firmly in place as the model of acceptable femininity. Christianity moved on to vilify and create a negative mythos around the uncontrollable masculine – the natural doubting rational mind – which is to say Lucifer.

[8] Senoy, Sansenoy, and Semangelof.

[9] To be a good Adam in patriarchal culture, a man must take orders from his god while instructing and directing the women in his life. He must be strong enough to shape the feminine as it appears in the world around him but humble enough to listen to what he is told by higher-ranking Adams that his god wants him to do. If he performs these two functions he is set and all other responsibilities – namely for his desires, urges, and behavior – are not his.

[10] My work on the end of the Mayan Calendar has shown me that we are each of us challenged to clean up any emotional and energetic debris from the past that we might be carrying (from this life and any others). Going through the process of separating myth from archetype in just about any mythological story that appeals to a person can go a long way toward opening the door to self-acceptance that leads to that of self-love.

[11] Via anarchy, random violence, purposelessness, drunken dancing on tables, etc.

[12] Her true Black Moon Lilith is in Capricorn in the 1st house.

[13] An example: I have found raw animal fat useful for managing excess adrenaline in my system. Various traumas in this life and others have had me most of my life on edge, waiting for something terrible to happen – on guard against threats. My government tells me that raw animal fats are dangerous and detrimental to me and yet they in fact stir and support healing processes in ways that nothing else can, My body is drawn to eating raw meat at times precisely because the fat with it is uncooked and, therefore, in its natural form.

[14] See *The Soul's Journey I: Astrology, Reincarnation, and Karma with a Medium and Channel* for a full treatment of this.

[15] "The Astrological Variants of the Lunar Apogee - Black Moon," http://www.expreso.co.cr/centaurs/blackmoon/barycentric.html.

[16] "The Astrological Variants of the Lunar Apogee - Black Moon," http://www.expreso.co.cr/centaurs/blackmoon/barycentric.html

[17] See *Chiron, 2012, and the Aquarian Age: The Key and How to Use It* for a full exploration of this approach to Chiron.